

No 61,519

TOMORROW

More people are playing chess and more watching it being played than ever before. In Saturday, a former British chess champion reports on the grand prix chess circuit and the build-up to the next world championships. Also in the eight-page arts and leisure section are features on Travel: The call of the wild in Alaska; Values: How to buy your holiday wine; Drink: Alsace winners and news and views of the forthcoming week's events in the arts.

£200m for computer industry

The Government is to help the computer industry develop new, "more intelligent" computers, in a programme that will cost up to £200m over five years and is designed to prevent Britain falling behind Japan and the United States. Back page

CND poll check

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to appoint a full-time worker for the general election campaign who will draw up a register of all candidates' views on nuclear weapons. Page 3

Stiffer sentence

General Alfonso Armada, who was sentenced to six years imprisonment for his part in the unsuccessful Spanish coup in February, 1981, had his sentence increased to the maximum 30 years by the Spanish Supreme Court. Page 8



Nicaragua anger

President Reagan's four-point proposal for Central America was denounced in Managua where the Sandinista authorities called on the people to take part in armed street marches throughout the country. Page 6

Harrods claim

Professor Roland Smith, chairman of the House of Fraser, claims that an independent pension fund report challenges Lorrho's argument that shareholders risk nothing by demergering Harrods. Page 17

Gdansk arrest

Gdansk police detained Mrs Bozena Rybicka, Mr Lech Walesa's secretary, and searched her flat. Her husband said she was stopped when she left Mr Walesa's home. Ideology clash, page 9

Schoolboys die

Two boys aged 15 were found dead in a shed in Weston-super-Mare, Avon. The father of one said he had heard that police had taken away samples of a solvent. Page 3

Teachers' jobs

Seven thousand teachers' jobs could be lost in 1983-84 but colleges of further education expect to employ 1,000 new lecturers in the next 12 months. Page 3

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Letter: on Mr Bruce Kent, from Mr E. E. Y. Hales, and others: TV licence fee, from Mr D. Elstein; British Telecom, from Mr P. B. Matthews, and Mrs M. A. Mills. Leading articles: President Reagan; EXTIT; Soviet submarines. Features, pages 10-12. Sir Ian Gilmour Warns Tories that CND is not the real enemy; Dublin's Protestants on the way up; Learning to live with Andropov; Spectrum: Lords of the green baize battlefield. Friday Page: The romantic objects of art's desire; Twiggy on Broadway. Obituary, page 14. Count Rencellai; Mr Charles Clements.

Table with 3 columns: Home News, Motoring, Parliament, etc. with corresponding page numbers.

Thatcher urged to end speculation before local polling

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

There is a growing belief in some quarters of the Conservative Party that the Prime Minister has misjudged public speculation over the date of the general election and so narrowed rather than widened her room for manoeuvre. The particular complaint, voiced both by some who want a June election and some who prefer October or later, is that expectation has been encouraged that an announcement of some kind is to be made in the next ten days or so, on the results of the English and Welsh district elections next Thursday have been assessed. If that proves true, the party fears that Mrs Margaret Thatcher or her deputy will have needlessly exposed herself to a charge of cowardice or opportunism or both, whatever decision she then makes. Several ministers, including some who have her ear, now say that the Prime Minister can only avoid this trap by stating her intentions before the local election results have been declared. Backbench Conservatives on either side of the argument for and against a June election have expressed opinions on these lines to their whips in the course of this week. Central to their argument is the view that the local elections are unlikely to convey any clear message. The assessment exercise carried out by Conservative Central Office is a daunting one, with votes being cast in 12,000 different wards. Local government elections produce a far lower turnout than general elections, with

Judge refuses ban on suicide booklet

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Voluntary Euthanasia Society formerly known as EXIL, intends to continue to supply its suicide booklet after a High Court judge yesterday refused to grant the Attorney General a declaration that its distribution was illegal. Mr Justice Woolf ruled that in some circumstances supply of a Guide to Self-Deliverance would amount to a criminal offence under the Suicide Act 1961, which prohibits aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring a suicide. But he would not make a blanket declaration which would effectively amount to a ban. It would be wrong, he said, for the civil court to usurp the task of a jury in a criminal court and declare what conduct was criminal. Each case would have to be decided on its facts. Far from precipitating a suicide, the booklet might in some cases deter someone from committing suicide. The ruling, which the judge said either side could appeal against, opens the way for Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General, to bring a criminal prosecution over the booklet which has been linked to at least 15 deaths. But Miss Barbara Smoker, chairman of the society's executive committee, said: "Obviously we do not want to break the law in this matter. But I do not think we would be frightened of a criminal prosecution as such, although we would be frightened of a case hand-picked by the police to show us up in a bad light, we act for the benefit of people and cannot afford that sort of wrong image." Welcoming the judge's ruling that publication was not illegal in itself and that the booklet "provides a satisfactory treatment of the subject which would not be easy to improve upon," Miss Smoker said that "in all probability" the society would continue to supply the booklet. But she added that it might broaden the undertaking that recipients have to give, to the effect that they had no immediate intention of taking their lives. "It would seem that we can supply the booklet to those we know have no present intention to commit suicide." The Attorney General's attempt to ban the booklet has failed and the society now calls upon the Government to amend the law to allow those who are incurably ill or disabled to take their own lives if they wish. Although the society had raised £14,000 from its members for a fighting fund, the judge yesterday ordered the Attorney General to bear both sides' costs in the case. Leading article, page 13. Law Report, page 14.

ICI boosts hopes on economy

The stock market surged to within a fraction of its record high yesterday as the leaders of Britain's biggest industrial companies confirmed that the economy is on the mend and the Prime Minister forecast lower interest rates. At its peak in early afternoon the FT ordinary index was 3.6 points up at 702.6 after ICI astonished even the most optimistic forecasters with profits for the first three months of the year which had more than doubled. Mr John Harvey-Jones, ICI chairman, reported that the company made £128m between January and March against just £22m in the same period of 1982. But profit-taking dampened down the euphoria in late dealings and at the close the market had slipped back to 696.8, down 2.2 on the day. In the Commons, Mrs Thatcher said that real interest rates should decline in the wake of further falls in the rate of inflation. Taking its cue from the Prime Minister and the recent strength of sterling the Bank of England unveiled a new £1 billion index-linked gilt stock, which the City immediately dubbed "election tap" because it has been constructed in such a way as to be attractive even if there were a change of government. Market report, page 16. Business News, page 17.

Police consider kidnap charges

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

at her home in Hackney, east London, Mr Geoffrey Gordon, the family solicitor said: "She needs a lot of rest and there will obviously be mental scars." Mrs Goodwin, aged 40, was found wandering in the street in Mitcham, south London, still in the night dress and dressing gown in which she disappeared on Thursday evening last week. She was helped into Mitcham police station shortly after 11 pm by a passerby. Mr Gordon said Mrs Goodwin, the mother of three children, was at first "in a dazed and mentally battered condition. She is now more composed mentally but is extremely tired and not able to cope with normal incidents of life". She was also, he said, still "weak on her pins". News of her release was passed to her husband John, who is in prison. Early yesterday morning Mr Goodwin was taken from his cell at Wandsworth Prison and connected by telephone with his wife at Scotland Yard. The couple spoke for 15 minutes and Mr Goodwin was said to be relieved by his wife's release. During the past week Mr Goodwin had been advising his family and the police in the handling of the kidnapping and negotiations. Yesterday Scotland Yard said they were still searching for two men

Anglo-US Laker talks end in deadlock

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Two days of talks in the United States between British and American officials over a legal dispute arising from the collapse of Laker Airways have ended in deadlock. The talks related to a Justice Department investigation into charges by Sir Freddie Laker that seven leading airlines, including British Airways and British Caledonian, conspired to drive him out of business. The British Embassy in Washington said yesterday that the talks "failed to resolve the disagreements between the British and the US about the applicability of American anti-trust law to the United Kingdom-United States air services agreement". The British delegation flew back to London on Wednesday, and the British Government will now consider what steps to take. No date for further talks has been set. Diplomat sources here said that the investigation was straining Anglo-American relations. In the British view, the issue involved the same kind of extra-territorial concerns which arose during the Soviet gas pipeline dispute. The British Government has protested about the investigation, and its team led by Mr Handley Stevens, Under-Secretary at the Department of Trade, has argued against the applicability of US anti-trust law. The Justice Department has refused to comment publicly on the case, but the investigation could lead to charges and financial assessments against British assets in the United States. These could have serious, adverse effects on the two airlines, officials said. A private civil case has also been filed in Washington by the insolvent Laker Airways, accusing the seven airlines of forcing Sir Freddie's leading creditors to cut off funds to him by threatening them with a big loss of business. There is provision in the air services treaty between the United States and Britain for invoking outside arbitration in unresolved disputes, Derek Harris writes.



Mr Robert Dillan, US Ambassador to Beirut, pointing out the Embassy bomb damage to Mr Shultz.

Syria blamed for deadlock as Shultz shuttle begins

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, held five-hour talks at the hilltop Presidential palace in eastern Beirut yesterday in a Middle East peace mission which is emerging as a high-level negotiating shuttle. United States officials revealed en route to Beirut from Jerusalem that Mr Shultz expects to have about 10 meetings over the next two weeks with Mr Menem Beghin, the Israeli Prime Minister. "I am here to bring these negotiations closer to a successful conclusion... I am here to help in the process of working out an agreement for the leaving of all foreign forces from Lebanon," Mr Shultz said on landing at the heavily guarded Beirut airport. He intends to shuttle between the Israeli and Lebanese capitals until the basis of an agreement is reached. Mr Shultz flew by helicopter to see the devastation at the American Embassy in West Beirut which was badly damaged by a powerful bomb explosion on April 18. A British Embassy official said that some American Embassy officials now are working out of the British Embassy about 700 yards away, guarded by four armoured marine vehicles. Mr Shultz then drove to the presidential palace in the suburb of Baabda, southeast of Beirut, for his meeting with Mr Amin Gemayel, the Lebanese President and Mr Elie Salem, Foreign Minister. He was accompanied by Mr Philip Habib, the special American envoy to the Middle East, and by Mr Morris Draper, the chief American negotiator at the troop withdrawal talks between Lebanon, Israel and the United States. After the meeting Mr Shultz said: "This has been a very rewarding day... And of course a moving day in visiting our employees at the American Embassy and seeing that right and rewarding in talking with President Gemayel and Foreign Minister Elie Salem and their colleagues." He added: "We had a very full review of all the issues here just as we did in Israel. I can see that there are quite a number of difficult issues. At least I think we can now have some sense of definition of them." Earlier, Mr Salem told a group of reporters that Lebanon refused to sign an agreement with Israel that could in any way harm its relations with the Arabs and specifically with Syria. He also acknowledged that the future status of Major Saad Haddad, the renegade Lebanese Army commander whose militia in South Lebanon is backed by Israel, remained a sticking point in the negotiations. He said another stumbling block was the issue of joint Lebanese-Israeli patrols in South Lebanon. He said that Lebanon would demand an American presence in any joint committee established with Israel to oversee the terms of a withdrawal agreement, saying Israel does not want Americans on all of the proposed supervising bodies. The negotiations have been dragging on for the past four months and any optimism expressed by either the Lebanese or Israeli side in the past few weeks has now been dampened by the tough stance adopted by the Syrian government. American officials said privately the Syrian position appears aimed at blocking a

Navy will stop relatives at sea

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain has warned Senor Osvaldo Destefanis, who is threatening to take a boatload of Argentines to visit soldiers' graves on the Falkland Islands, that they will not be allowed to land. Senor Destefanis says the ship will sail tomorrow, although the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has withdrawn its support. But the Foreign Office, in its sternest declaration so far on the issue, said last night that there could be no question of the British Government granting access to the disputed islands. Officials would not elaborate but the clear inference is that Royal Navy ships patrolling a 150-mile exclusion zone around the Falklands would turn away the Argentine vessel. The Foreign Office statement said that Whitehall was still receiving reports that Senor Destefanis was persisting with his plans, despite the ICRC's view that these were "contrary to the principle of neutrality" which the Red Cross was called upon to defend. The Government had insisted all along that it had no objection to a visit provided that it was organized by the ICRC as a purely humanitarian venture, but the arrangements made by Senor Destefanis had been judged unacceptable by the ICRC "for reasons of principle". It was therefore unacceptable to the British Government. Whitehall still hopes that the relatives will not sail tomorrow as planned, because it would be extremely embarrassing if the Royal Navy had to be seen refusing passage to a party of mourners. Senor Destefanis himself had promised that he would avoid any confrontation and would hold a service at sea outside the 150-mile limit if barred from sailing further. But even this would be seen as unwelcome publicity for Britain.

Police raids 'breached the law'

The Home Secretary last night published a unique report from the Police Complaints Board, which drew attention to grave and exceptional circumstances surrounding the 1981 police raids in Raiton Road, Brixton, south London (Anthony Bevins writes). The undated report, delivered to Mr Whitelaw last year, said that the board had been concerned with "breaches of the law" and "the implication that the unprofessional conduct of officers engaged on that operation could be a reflection of their conduct of less sensitive occasions."

Nazi 'fake factory' denied

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

East Germany refused yesterday to be drawn into the Hitler diaries controversy, and denied accusations that a Potsdam factory was turning out forged Nazi documents. The publication of the diaries in the West German magazine Stern has led to a fierce debate over their authenticity and to reports of an East German factory.

Frenchmen hanged in Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Two Frenchmen, former mercenaries in the Rhodesian forces, were hanged at dawn here yesterday for the murder of a café owner in 1981. The hangings went ahead in spite of appeals by the French Government for clemency and three recent meetings between French and Zimbabwean officials both here and in Paris. Gevais Boutanquoi, who was 34, and Simon Chemouil, aged 29, were the first whites to be executed since Zimbabwe's independence three years ago. Only two other men of about twenty sentenced to death in that time have been hanged. The remainder had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment by President Canaan Banana.

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# CND to appoint worker who will canvass poll candidates' attitudes

By Nicholas Timmins

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to appoint a full-time worker for the general election campaign. The job will include maintaining a register of the views of all MPs and candidates on nuclear weapons and disarmament issues.

When the campaign starts, CND will use the register to publicise the views of all candidates in the constituencies, concentrating particularly on marginal seats, to let voters know where individual candidates stand.

Mr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, said yesterday: "There is no question that CND is a political movement since it seeks social change; but it is not a party political movement."

"We will make known the views of candidates and urge people to vote for the candidate whom, in their opinion, will work most effectively to end the arms race. It will be for the voters to decide."

CND's policy is that it will not endorse any individual party or candidate although Mrs Joan Ruddock, CND's chairwoman has said that the campaign has to create a position where people who support CND's aims cannot vote Conservative,

unless the individual Conservative candidate disagrees with his party's policies on nuclear weapons.

The post of election worker will last for one year, at CND's standard salary of £7,200, taking the campaign's full-time staff to 29. The job's other responsibilities will include liaising with and briefing MPs, organizing lobbies of Parliament, assisting local groups during the election and liaising with CND's specialist political party sections, which include Labour, SDP, Liberal and "Green CND".

Mr Kent was still declining yesterday to discuss Cardinal Hume's statement on his position in CND. But it is understood that after careful thought he intends to continue in his post, with the cardinal's permission.

Up to 200 people from the British peace movement, trade unions and the Labour Party are expected to attend the second European nuclear disarmament convention in Berlin next month.

The convention between May 9 and 14, is expected to attract more than 2,000 representatives of western European peace

movements and some representatives of eastern European movements.

Mr Kent representatives of the Greenham Common peace camp and a delegation of seven from the Transport and General Workers' Union are expected to attend, as will Mr Mervyn Evans, general secretary of the TGWU and Mr Wedgwood Benn.

Mr Benn said that recent events had confirmed the power of the peace movement in Britain. There had been the attempt to punish the Citizens' Advice Bureau because Mrs Ruddock worked for them; Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, had tried to imply that CND was Soviet-dominated and there had been the pressure applied over Mr Kent's position with CND.

Women from Greenham Common and the women's peace movement yesterday announced their plans for an international women's day of action on May 24. They are hoping that trade unionists and others will take the day off to take part in dozens of small-scale demonstrations.

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Letters, page 13



Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, the world ice dance champion skaters, who were dance champions for the third successive time. They hope this year to win a gold medal at the winter Olympics.

# 7,000 more teaching jobs may disappear but colleges expand

By Sarah Baylis, Times Educational Supplement

More than 5,500 teachers' jobs disappeared from the payrolls of three-quarters of local councils in the last financial year. A further 5,000 look set to be cut from the same areas in the next 12 months, according to a survey of 76 local education authorities conducted by *The Times Educational Supplement*.

On the basis of the sample, the jobs of 7,000 teachers throughout England and Wales could disappear in 1983-84.

In contrast to the schools, where pupil numbers are falling, colleges of further education expect to employ 1,000 new lecturers in the next 12 months to teach the swelling ranks of 16 to 19 year olds. About 500 extra college posts were found to have been created last year.

There were no compulsory redundancies last year and chief education officers do not expect to dispute cuts or falling pupil numbers over the next year.

Some of the jobs in schools disappeared through redeployment, but most went through premature retirement; last year 6,350 older teachers left the profession early with enhanced pension rights. Given the net reduction of 5,500 jobs in 1982-83, some vacancies were clearly filled through the promotion of younger teachers.

For individual teachers who face an uncertain future and for

parents who see schools closing and specialist staff disappearing, the reductions may seem harsh. But they are still not high enough in terms of plans set out by the Department of Education in the White Paper *The Government's Expenditure Plans 1983-4 to 1985-6*; (Cmd 8789-11).

The White Paper envisaged a cut of 11,000 for 1983-84; given the corresponding drop in pupil numbers, it said that that could mean a very slight improvement in pupil-teacher ratios.

The survey found that half the education authorities in England and Wales plan to spend slightly more on education in the next 12 months than in 1982-83. Four out of 10 plan to spend less and one in ten plans to spend the same amount. The changes range from a 6.6 per cent increase in Dudley to a 2.9 per cent decrease in Stockport.

Two-thirds of the authorities in the sample will be "overspent" in 1983-84 because their total spending on all services is in breach of government targets. They will be penalized by losing rate support grant. The picture would be much bleaker if interest rates and inflation had not fallen over the past year.

Most authorities are spending at least five per cent more on books and equipment. A third of the authorities are increasing education for children with special needs.

# Traffic warden wins claim

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Mr John Hancock, a traffic warden who was dismissed for being rude to motorists, won his claim for unfair dismissal yesterday. He is expected to receive £500 compensation.

Miss Norah Healey, chairman of the Nottingham industrial tribunal, said the panel thought Mr Hancock was 80 per cent to blame for his dismissal, but she added that the panel was concerned that Mr Tony Tyler deputy chief constable of Nottinghamshire, had treated the case as gross misconduct.

Mr Hancock, aged 56, a traffic warden for 15 years, said afterwards: "Some firms sack employees for not working, but I have been sacked for working. I enjoyed serving the public."

He estimated he had issued 12,000 parking tickets and reported another 5,000 offences. "After this case I don't think any traffic warden will want to do a lot of work."

Mr Hancock, of Selwyn Close, West Bridgford, Nottingham, who was dismissed in August 1981, after repeated complaints from the public, will not be reappointed.

At an earlier hearing, Superintendent Charles Casley, his former superior, said: "He could detect offences better than any policeman we had, but he just didn't know how to be nice to people."

"He had an insatiable appetite for reporting offences. He would stand at a strategic point, usually at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, for two hours and fill his book with traffic offences."

# Man made wife pay him to decorate

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Mr William Broadhurst was so mean that he charged his wife £5 for redecorating the living-room ceiling. The only time he gave her a lift to work in his car, she paid for the petrol. He collected 50p a week from his family to pay for the electricity used by the television, a divorce judge said in London yesterday.

Mr Justice Eshelman granted Mrs Thomas Broadhurst, aged 56, a decree nisi against her "very selfish and insensitive" husband on the ground that their marriage had irretrievably broken down because of his unreasonable behaviour.

The judge in the Family Division, said Mr Broadhurst, aged 65, made his family pay towards the cost of installing a shower, even though their house in Brewery Road, Plumtree, south-east London, did not have a bath.

When one of his two married daughters visited her old home, she was charged 5p for having a shower.

"This matter illustrates with perfect clarity the meanness of this man," the judge said.

Mr Broadhurst opposed his wife's divorce petition, because if she succeeded, she would have a claim on the house, the judge said. If he had won, he would be entitled to stay in the house, without any claim against it.

He admitted that the marriage had irretrievably broken down, but denied it was caused by his behaviour. The judge said Mr Broadhurst, a retired bricklayer, was interested only in cars and playing golf and bowls.

Mr Broadhurst agreed there was a "mutual dislike for each other," but claimed he was a "hen-pecked worm in the house."

Sexual contact between the couple stopped at the end of 1974. Mrs Broadhurst was the "warmer of the two" and try to persuade her husband to have sexual intercourse. But he used to say he was too tired, the judge said.

Outside the court, Mrs Broadhurst, who now lives with a relative, said: "I'm pleased I have got a divorce at last. Mr Broadhurst refused to comment on the meanness allegations."

# Solvent clue to deaths of two boys

From Craig Seton Weston-Super-Mare

Two boys aged 15 who were found dead in a garden shed yesterday may have been sufficed with solvents.

Michael Munns, described as a good samaritan by neighbours, and Ian Kirtis, his friend, were found slumped in the shed at the back of the Munnses' home in Cleveland Road, Weston-Super-Mare, Avon, by two other schoolboys.

The police were called but several attempts to revive the boys were unsuccessful. Clothing and blinkers were taken away for examination and the police would not comment on the cause of death until post-mortem examinations had been carried out.

Mr Dennis Kitts, father of Ian Kitts, said yesterday: "We are being told that the police have taken away samples of solvent. From that point of view to say it is solvent abuse is speculation and we are waiting for the pathologist's report."

A neighbour of Michael Munns said: "We cannot believe it. He was such a cheerful, bright lad, and was always willing to help."

He had been helping his father, who works for a building firm, to extend their home.

Children and staff at Wyvern School in Weston-Super-Mare, which both boys attended, were stunned by their death. Mr Geoffrey Crump, director of education for Avon, said yesterday: "This is a desperate tragedy and the authority has enormous sympathy with the family."

"The incident took place outside school time and is in the hands of the police."

# Banker to chair Nature Conservancy Council

By Our Environment Correspondent

A London banker who runs a Welsh sheep farm as a nature reserve is to be the next chairman of the Nature Conservancy Council. He is William Wilkinson, aged 50, brother of Mr John Wilkinson, Conservative MP for Hillingdon, Ruislip-Norwood.

The new chairman, who will take over next Tuesday, described himself yesterday as a "floating voter" who had never belonged to a political party. "I have always been interested in wildlife, the countryside and their conservation," he said.

He will succeed Sir Ralph Verney, aged 68, a former president of the County Landowners Association, who is about to end a three-year term as chairman. Mr Wilkinson will serve for four years.

Ministers reject the claim of naturalists that Sir Ralph has been dismissed because of his robust defence of Somerset bird refuges against pressure from farmers and Conservative MPs.

Mr Wilkinson's wide interests bridge the two competing lobbies of farmers and naturalists which make opposing demands on the council, a quango which administers wildlife law.

# Prison potter convicted of Leach conspiracy

From Our Correspondent

A jury at Southwark Crown Court, London, yesterday found Vincent Mason guilty of conspiring with two other men to obtain money by deception from leading auction houses by making fake Bernard Leach pottery in a prison workshop. He was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, suspended for two years.

Although he was a beginner Mason, serving a five-year sentence for burglary and handling stolen property, used the library at Featherstone prison, near Wolverhampton, to make a detailed study of the Cornish master potter.

The copies he produced in the prison kiln fooled experts at Sotheby's, Christie's, Bonham's and other auction houses.

The jury was told that William Boardman, a fellow prisoner, saw Mason's work at pottery classes and hit on the idea of passing them to John Excell, an antique dealer, who then got in touch with the auction houses.

Mason's work appeared in various catalogues and even fooled Mr Richard Dennis, who had collected and dealt in Leach's works for many years.

Mason, aged 47, of Fawcett Street, Salford, Greater Manchester, insisted he did not know what Boardman and Excell were doing with his pots. He denied trying to fool "the foremost experts on Leach" and "such presumption would have been monumental."

Excell was given an 18-month sentence suspended for two years and Boardman was given 18 months concurrent with a three-year sentence he was already serving.

# Incompetent solicitors 'should refund fees'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Incompetent solicitors guilty of "serious dereliction of duty" to a client should be ordered to refund all or part of their fees, the Lay Observer recommends in his annual report published yesterday.

The Lay Observer, Major John Allen, who acts as a watchdog of the way the Law Society handles the public's complaints, says at present there is no remedy for bad professional work by solicitors except that which is offered voluntarily.

In such cases, which stop short of actionable negligence, the Law Society should be given power to order a refund by a solicitor. At present its powers are limited to issues of professional conduct.

Most solicitors did correct mistakes at their own expense. "Nevertheless, I believe the society should have the power to order this in the very small proportion of cases where their solicitor fails to meet his proper obligations in this respect."

He notes that the Law Society is revising its *Guide to the Professional Conduct of Solicitors* and says further judgment will be suspended until new measures relating to incompetence are announced.

Delays and lack of information are still a "frequent and well-justified cause of complaint" from the public against solicitors, he says. "I have been dismayed at the overall time taken to bring some matters to a conclusion."

Eighth annual report of the Lay Observer (Stationery Office, £2.25.)

# Television's newcomer is winning friends

By Kenneth Gouling

Channel 4, six months old next week and now well established in the ratings after a shaky start, is still enjoying the confidence of the independent television companies in spite of the strain it places on their finances.

The 15 companies are bearing the brunt of the channel's costs without getting back anything like the total £138m outlay in advertising revenue, mainly due to the dispute over advertising fees for actors.

Thames Television, for example, would have made a profit before its levy payment of between £20m to £30m this year, but that potential profit has become a predicted loss of between £2m and £3m. Thames pays the highest Channel 4 subscription of £21.6m.

Company executives were unwilling yesterday to reopen old arguments about whether Channel 4 should have been controlled by the independent television companies rather than becoming a subsidiary of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA).

Mr Hugh Dundas, chairman of Thames Television, said: "There is no point in saying what might have happened. We in the 15 companies and the Independent Television News had all the facilities and expertise. But we went into the current franchise knowing what was to happen and that is now

# Future secure, TV-am says

After weeks of uncertainty, low ratings for its programmes and the disappearance of several "busonamic" presenters, TV-am yesterday announced that its financial future is secure.

In a brief statement after a board meeting, it said that agreement had been reached between the company's shareholders and its bankers.

The company, which holds the commercial breakfast television franchise, has come to an agreement with its unions on cuts amounting to £1.5m a year towards checking water under the bridge. Our ambition is to see it work."

Yorkshire Television, sixth in the subscription list on £13.6m, was losing £1m a month earlier this year in terms of the discrepancy between what it has to pay for Channel 4 and the revenue it draws from advertising.

Now that figure has been reduced to £750,000, partly, Yorkshire says, because Channel 4 revenue has increased, but also because the IBA has deprived the collection of some of the interest on the amount the companies owe on the first year's subscriptions to the channel.

Mr Paul Fox, managing director and director of programmes at Yorkshire, who is a senior figure in the industry, discounted reports that the companies wanted either to see Channel 4 go out of business or to stage a takeover.

He said: "We support it wholeheartedly and continue to wish it well. Obviously life would be much easier without the advertising dispute, and God knows when the end of that will come, but the company is performing well and its closure has never been discussed."

Frustration over the Equity Institute of Practitioners in

Advertising dispute is expressed by Granada, one of the "big five" companies in the regions. Mr Peter Rennie, sales director, said much more revenue would have been generated had it not been for the dispute.

Mr Timothy Knowles, assistant managing director and finance director of HTV, was emphatic that even with an immediate resumption of the dispute, there would be no significant increase in the overall income from advertising. "Because the money we have lost on Channel 4 and S4C has simply been moved into ITV 1."

Last month the companies had the consolation of seeing their general revenue from advertising increase to £73m, £15.5m more than in February and nearly £20m more than in April last year.

That lends support to the view of Mr John Birt, director of programmes, London Weekend Television, that the people in Independent Television are confident that the present difficulties will have evaporated in a couple of years. But he added that companies such as LWT are going to have to rethink fundamentals in a system that has not had to do it for quite some time."

As for Channel 4, to be successful it needs, on average, for everyone who watches television to tune into it for two hours a week.

This advertisement is published by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited on behalf of Knoll International Holdings, Inc.

A message to all shareholders and staff of Sotheby's from the Directors of Knoll International Holdings, Inc.

# These are our commitments

- ★ To restore Sotheby's pre-eminence.
- ★ To enhance prospects for Sotheby's experts.
- ★ To renew confidence among clients and the art world at large.
- ★ To introduce new leadership with a solid record of achievement.
- ★ To provide greater financial management and strength.
- ★ To restore profitability and growth.
- ★ To increase employees' participation in management and in profits.
- ★ To maintain a majority of British directors with headquarters in London.

We believe our cash offer of 520p per ordinary share is a generous price for shareholders - the Board of Sotheby's has been unable to dispute this.

## ACCEPT OUR OFFER WITHOUT DELAY

The Directors of Knoll International Holdings, Inc. (including those who have delegated supervision of this advertisement) have all taken reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and the opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the Directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

PM asserts: 'We are the true peace movement'

NUCLEAR DEBATE

The Conservatives were the true peace movement. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, declared in the Commons during questions about Labour's defence policy and about the politics of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.



Maxwell-Hyslop: Policies have kept the peace

Leading the peace movement are to have been responsible for carrying out policies which have preserved peace.

Too many involved for visits to graves

WAR WIDOWS

There were just too many people involved to make it a feasible proposition for all war widows to visit their husbands' graves overseas at a public expense, Lord Glenarthur, a Government spokesman, told the House of Lords at question time.

State cash for research project

TECHNOLOGY

Work carried out in scientific institutions will be funded 100 per cent by government.

departments concerned and the SERC.

The directorate will report to a small supervising board of industrialists. Sir Robert Telford, who has substantial experience of the electronics industry, has agreed to serve on a part-time basis as chairman of the Board.

Labour loves spending other people's money

RATING SYSTEM

Labour-controlled local authorities were very big spenders of other people's money, Mrs Thatcher the Prime Minister said during noisy exchanges with Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, over the level of council rates.

War hero's widow being helped

SALE OF VC

The Government had an excellent record on war widows, and the excellence of that record would continue in future, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions about the sale by Mrs Muriel Nicolson of her late husband's Victoria Cross.

Projections for growth unchanged

THE ECONOMY

There was encouraging confirmation that the economy was recovering, but this had not led the Government to revise its projections for this year.

Jenkin: £350m project over five years

A new, small, directorate will be established in the Department of Industry to coordinate the programme. It will be headed by Mr Brian Jenkin, Secretary of the Science and Engineering Research Council.

British key fitted US missile

DEFENCE

A serious incident involving Thor missiles in 1962 had only recently come to light, Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, SDP) said when he asked the Secretary of State for Defence about the desirability of a dual control key control mechanism for cruise missiles.

Next week

The main business in the Commons next week will be: Tuesday: Criminal Justice Bill, Criminal Evidence Bill, Criminal Justice (Amendment) Bill.

Right to buy clause not to be reinserted

HOUSING BILL

The Government does not intend to reinsert the clause in the Housing and Building Control Bill which would have extended right to buy provisions to properties occupied by tenants of charitable housing associations and housing trusts and which was rejected in the Lords by 182 votes to 96 on Tuesday, Lord Balfour of Burghley.

Family doctor service review

The administration of the family practitioner services in England and Wales is to be reviewed, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, announced in a written answer.

Police accept checks on computer records

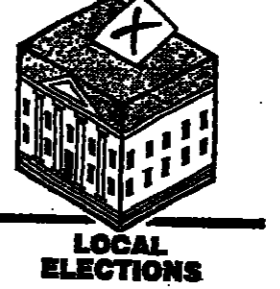
The Merseyside police have accepted a stringent set of data protection safeguards, to win the support of its Labour-controlled county police committee for a project to computerize criminal records at an estimated cost of £3m.

Motor cycle ace never took test

Ron Haslam, aged 26, the motor cycle racing star, was fined £130 by magistrates in Ilkerton, Derbyshire, yesterday, for riding a motor cycle without L-plates, insurance and a crash helmet.

Activists prepare for battle

Mrs Wendy Talley is the tolerant empress of the semi-detached house in Broomfield Road, Chelmsford, which the local Liberal Party recently took over for its headquarters.



The total number of municipal activists is small, but they perform a vital function. Without them election addresses and manifestos would not come through the letter box, candidates would not get their nomination papers signed and the foot-soldiers would not be roused to go out canvassing on damp, dark evenings.



## THE NEW VOLVO 760 GLE. ITS SHAPE HAS MET WITH SOME RESISTANCE IN THE PRESS BUT VERY LITTLE ON THE ROAD.

In a world where it's often difficult to tell one car from another, no-one can mistake the new Volvo 760 GLE.

Its elegant profile is instantly recognisable.

Basically a wedge shape, it has a low bonnet, clearly sculptured edges and a steeply raked rear windscreen.

It is extremely aerodynamic giving a resistant co-efficient of just under 0.40.

(Equally important, it also gives three rear seat passengers the chance to sit up in comfort.)

A few journalists were surprised by the car's unusual profile but no-one has questioned its efficiency.

Although a roomy 5-seater, 6-cylinder saloon, the new Volvo is surprisingly economical.

The automatic model gives you 25 mpg (at 75 mph) 32.1 mpg (at 56 mph) and 17.9 mpg (Urban).

Of course, this economy is not solely due to the car's styling.

The 760 GLE is some 88lbs lighter than Volvo's previous 6-cylinder saloon.

While the car's new automatic transmission is equipped with an overdrive that reduces the engine's fuel consumption at speed, quite dramatically.

### A DRIVER'S CAR.

Economy, however, is rarely the main reason for buying a car of this class.

The Volvo 760 GLE has to meet the needs of the driver as well as the needs of society.

It does it triumphantly.

"Ultimate handling is a delight with

total predictability and neutral balance in fast curves, gentle understeer in the slower ones." *AUTOCAR*

"The car showed excellent stability at all speeds." *MOTOR TREND*

The Volvo 760 GLE is very much a driver's car.

Top speed is 118 mph and 60 mph can be reached in just under 10 seconds, but it's the sheer driveability of the car that marks it out as special.

The long wheelbase and wide track give the car wonderful stability - even when buffeted by side winds, but the biggest contribution to the outstanding handling is made by the new rear suspension.

Volvo have introduced an entirely new constant track rear axle with a patented sub-frame.

This not only improves road holding but gives less vibration and lower noise levels.

Motor Trend summed it up this way:

"The new 760 saloons are capable of getting from Point A to Point B in a better than average hurry. With reassuring stability. Traditional Volvo comfort. And a level of luxury that is new for this company."

Inside, the car is indeed extremely comfortable.

The new front seats have been developed in co-operation with orthopaedic experts at the Sahlgrenska Hospital in Gothenburg.

Both are electrically heated. The seats automatically warm up at temperatures below 14°C.

You can choose leather or plush velour and the upholstery colour is repeated on the door panels and dashboard.

The dashboard itself is angled towards the driver so all the controls are within easy reach.

"Ergonomically the 760 GLE is excellent." *AUTOCAR*

It is also extremely well-equipped.

Full air conditioning, electric windows and door mirrors, central locking, metallic paint, tinted glass, power steering and alloy wheels are all standard.

You'll also find a host of extra little touches that make the 760 GLE a very satisfying car to live with.

For example, when you close the driver's door after getting in the car the courtesy light stays on for 15 seconds giving you time to put the key in the ignition.

There are no less than 10 different storage areas inside the car and there are reading lamps for both front and rear seats.

The boot, too, is especially accommodating.

And if the 760 GLE does well by your suitcases it does even better by your rear seat passengers.

The rear seat is unusually wide due to the absence of any wheel arches and the high roof line gives plenty of headroom.

### THE TRADITIONAL VIRTUES.

Underlying all this enjoyment, of course, is Volvo's traditional concern with safety and reliability.

The new Volvo more than meets

every international safety regulation.

For example, the USA authorities demand that a car must meet stringent frontal collision standards.

The Volvo 760 GLE easily exceeds these standards, being able to absorb an impact some 36% greater than the regulations require.

When a car maker goes to that kind of trouble when it doesn't have to, you know you're in safe hands.

But if longevity of the occupants is a Volvo pre-occupation so is the longevity of the car.

Nobody makes longer lasting cars than Volvo.

The latest statistics to come from the Swedish Motor Inspection Company show that the Volvo has an average life expectancy of 193 years.

Longer than any other car in the survey.

The 760 GLE more than matches the quality of past Volvos, it improves on it.

To help prevent rust approximately one-third of the Volvo's bodywork is Zincrometal or zinc-coated sheet metal. About 18 square metres in all.

### HOW MUCH? WHERE CAN I SEE IT?

The Volvo 760 GLE is at your nearest Volvo showroom now.

Prices start at £12,041, a figure that compares very favourably with other luxury cars on the market.

However, as with the car's looks, we're happy for you to judge the car's value for yourself.

If you'd like a colour brochure, ask your secretary to call us at the number below or send us your business card and we'll do the rest.

Better still, call in and see the car in the showroom.

You'll find, even standing still, it overcomes any resistance. **VOLVO**

Reagan's Central America doctrine

# President outlines four goals to provide long-term strategy

From Nicholas Ashford  
Washington

President Reagan's address to a joint session of Congress on Wednesday night is likely to become known as "the Reagan doctrine on Central America".

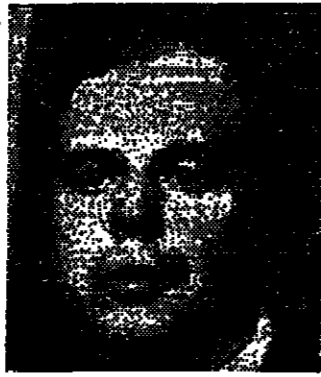
In his speech Mr Reagan set out broad objectives which are likely to provide the basis of American policy towards the region for years to come. There are a commitment by the US to encourage the development of democracy in Central America; to help the countries of the region defend themselves against left-wing revolution and tyranny; to encourage economic development so as to eradicate poverty and other root causes for internal unrest; and to support dialogue and negotiation among and within the countries of the region.

In an attempt to alert American public opinion to the threat that unrest in Central America poses to the US, the President warned that "the national security of the Americas is at stake in Central America. If we cannot defend ourselves there, we cannot expect to prevail elsewhere. Our credibility would collapse, our alliances would crumble, and the safety of our homeland would be put in jeopardy."

Although Mr Reagan's speech contained no new initiatives, it did include suggestions of compromise. He said the US would support any agreement reached by Central American countries for withdrawal of all foreign forces and appeared to leave the door open for diplomatic efforts that could involve some of the left-wing insurgents in El Salvador.



Senator Percy: 'Better chance of approval'



Senator Kasten: Bipartisan support

The President also announced - but did not name - the appointment of a special envoy to Central America. The envoy is expected to be Mr Richard Stone, a former Florida senator, although some congressmen have expressed reservations about Mr Stone's previous connections with the Government of Guatemala.

The immediate aim of the administration was to gain congressional approval for the military and economic assistance programme to El Salvador and other countries in the region. This programme, amounting to \$600m for fiscal 1984, has been floundering around Capitol Hill for weeks because of congressional concern about the Administration's objectives - particularly its military aid for El Salvador - and the pervasive fear that the US could find itself embroiled in another Vietnam-style conflict.

President Reagan tried to allay these fears by pledging that no US combat troops would be

sent to the region and by using language which, while tough when referring to the left-wing Sandinista regime in Nicaragua, was relatively muted and unobscuring.

Whether he has succeeded in winning the bipartisan support for his policy which he repeatedly sought during his address remains unclear. In the official democratic response broadcast immediately after his speech, Senator Christopher Dodd described his plea for more military aid as a "formula for failure".

Instead, Senator Dodd urged increased economic aid to relieve "the factors which breed revolution". He said the US should use its power and influence to achieve an immediate end to hostilities in both El Salvador and Nicaragua and work for negotiated political settlements in the region.

Senator Edward Kennedy welcomed the decision to appoint a special presidential envoy, but feared that the President's overall policy was

"a prescription for a wider war".

Senator Charles Percy, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, felt, however, that the President had a better chance than before the speech of winning congressional approval for the \$110m in military aid to El Salvador.

Senator Robert Kasten, chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, predicted that Mr Reagan would now be able to develop the bipartisan support he needs for his programme to be approved.

Several congressmen expressed concern at the President's failure to refer to the covert aid that the CIA is giving to anti-Sandinista insurgents fighting against the Nicaraguan Government. His remarks about Nicaragua have been interpreted as meaning that this clandestine assistance will continue.

The first test of congressional reaction to the President's speech will place almost immediately upon the House Intelligence Committee meets to consider a proposal to sever covert military aid to Nicaraguan rebels. The proposal instead proposes overt aid to friendly nations to help stem the flow of weapons to guerrillas in El Salvador.

Senator Miguel D'Escoto, Nicaragua's Foreign Minister, yesterday broadened President Reagan's lie and predicted that Congress would block his request for additional aid to fight left-wing forces in the region. Appearing on American television via satellite he declared: "We don't have any foreign troops at all."

Leading article, page 13

## Armed street protest called in Nicaragua

Managua (Reuters) - Nicaragua's left-wing government has called for armed protest marches throughout the country in response to an appeal by President Reagan for more military aid for Central America's anti-leftist government.

Broadcasts by a Nicaraguan government representative said Mr Reagan's address to Congress had slandered Nicaragua. The broadcasts demanded that the people take to the streets "carrying your rifles, machetes, clubs and any other weapon to show the ability of the Nicaraguan people to defend themselves against aggressions planned by Mr Reagan."

Nicaraguan leaders said Mr Reagan's call was really aimed at laying the groundwork for large-scale attacks on Nicaragua from neighbouring Honduras, the closest American ally in the region.

Honduras welcomed the Reagan speech, and the Government said it supported fully Mr Reagan's opposition to "totalitarian expansion" in the region, including El Salvador.

CANCUN: President Joao Figueiredo, of Brazil, visiting this Caribbean resort in Mexico for talks with President Miguel de la Madrid, rejected Mr Reagan's position that Nicaragua threatens US security, AP and Reuters report.

"If the United States thinks the situation in Nicaragua represents a risk for their security, that's their problem", he told reporters, "and if they decide to intervene in Nicaragua, they'll be doing that without the support of Brazil."

"The region cannot be considered only from the perspective of ideological confrontation or by resorting to solutions of force."

The President said the United States was partly to

blame for Nicaragua's swing towards the Soviet bloc. If Nicaragua had received economic aid from rich countries, especially the United States, then it would not be in the current situation.

● **SAN SALVADOR:** General Enrique Vides Casanova, the Defence Minister, said the people and armed forces of El Salvador were grateful to President Reagan for his efforts to shore up democracy in Central America. Reuters reports.

He said Mr Reagan's call would "wake the consciousness of the American people to the threat of communism."

● **MOSCOW:** Tass accused Mr Reagan of smearing the Nicaraguan Government and of shifting blame for tension in Central America. Reuters and AFP reports.

"He alleged that the United States and the entire Western world faced a terrible danger as a result of the revolutionary development of the region," Tass said.

● **LONDON:** Mr Denis Healey the Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, accused Mr Reagan of "acting like a recruiting sergeant for communism in the whole Caribbean area". The Press Association reports. He described the President's speech as lamentable.

Speaking on BBC radio's Today programme, Mr Healey said the President's speech "would make a very dangerous situation very much worse".

By raising the stakes, Mr Reagan was bringing America "a big step closer to direct American involvement as it was in Vietnam. In the end, if America really believes what President Reagan says, it would have to put its own troops in and that would be a total disaster."

## Assurance to Congress of no combat troops

The following are extracts from President Reagan's address on Central America to a joint session of Congress on Wednesday:

For several years now, under two Administrations, the United States has been increasing its defence of freedom in the Caribbean basin. Democracy is beginning to take root in El Salvador which, until a short time ago, knew only dictatorship. The new Government is now delivering on its promises of democracy, reforms, and free elections.

The people of El Salvador are earning their freedom and they deserve our moral and material support to achieve an immediate end to hostilities in both El Salvador and Nicaragua and to prevent the flow of arms to El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Costa Rica.

Some people talk as though the United States were incapable of acting effectively in international affairs without risking war or damaging those we seek to help.

Are democracies required to remain passive while threats to their security and prosperity accumulate? Must we just accept the destabilization of an entire region from the Panama Canal to Mexico on our southern border?

Let me say to those who invoke the memory of Vietnam: there is no thought of sending American combat troops to Central America; they are not needed - indeed they have not been requested there.

I offer these assurances: The United States will support any agreement among Central American countries for the withdrawal - under fully verifiable and

reciprocal conditions - of all foreign military and security advisers and troops.

We want to help opposition groups join the political process in all countries and compete by ballots instead of bullets.

We will support any verifiable, reciprocal agreement among Central American countries on the renunciation of support for insurgencies on neighbouring territory.

And finally, we desire to help Central America end its costly arms race, and will support any verifiable, reciprocal agreements on the non-importation of offensive weapons.

To move toward these goals more rapidly I am tonight announcing my intention to name an ambassador-at-large as my special envoy to Central America. He or she will report to me through the Secretary of State. The ambassador's responsibilities will be to lend US support to the efforts of regional governments to bring peace to this troubled area and to work closely with the Congress to assure the fullest possible bipartisan coordination of our policies toward the region.

What I am asking for is prompt congressional approval for the full reprogramming of funds for key current economic and security programmes so that the people of Central America can hold the line against externally supported aggression.

In addition, I am asking for prompt action on the supplemental request in these same areas to carry us through the current fiscal year, and for early and favourable congressional action on my requests for fiscal year 1984.

Finally, I am asking that the bipartisan consensus, which last year acted on the trade and tax provisions of the Caribbean basin initiative in the House, again take the lead to move this vital proposal to the floor to both chambers.

In summation, I say to you that tonight there can be no question: The national security of all the Americas is at stake in Central America. If we cannot defend ourselves there, we cannot expect to prevail elsewhere. Our credibility would collapse, and the safety of our homeland would be put at jeopardy. We have a vital interest, a moral duty, and a solemn responsibility.

## France lifts clamp on videos

From Diana Geddes  
Paris

France announced yesterday that it had lifted its six-month-old restrictions on the importation of video cassette recorders, more than 90 per cent of which come from Japan, but at the same time issued a warning that further measures would be taken against Japanese imports if France's foreign trade with Japan did not improve.

Last year France had a deficit with Japan of 12,000m francs (£1,000m), up from 7,000m francs in the previous year. The Government's decision last October to "centralize" customs clearance for video imports in a single, out-of-the-way customs post at Poitiers, 200 miles south-west of Paris, was intended as a symbolic warning to Japan and a measure to aid the French video industry.

Video cassette imports, which had been flooding in at a rate of nearly 3,000 a day, were reduced to a trickle. In lifting the restrictions, France has not set any quota on imports, but it is hoping that Japan will voluntarily limit them.

Mme Edith Cresson, Minister for Trade, said yesterday that the Government would not hesitate to take other measures of the same type "if the trade deficit between the two countries deteriorated."



Admirals brief the ambassador: Admirals Staveley (left) and McDonald with Signor Eric da Rin (centre).

## Nato has 'only half the warships' it needs

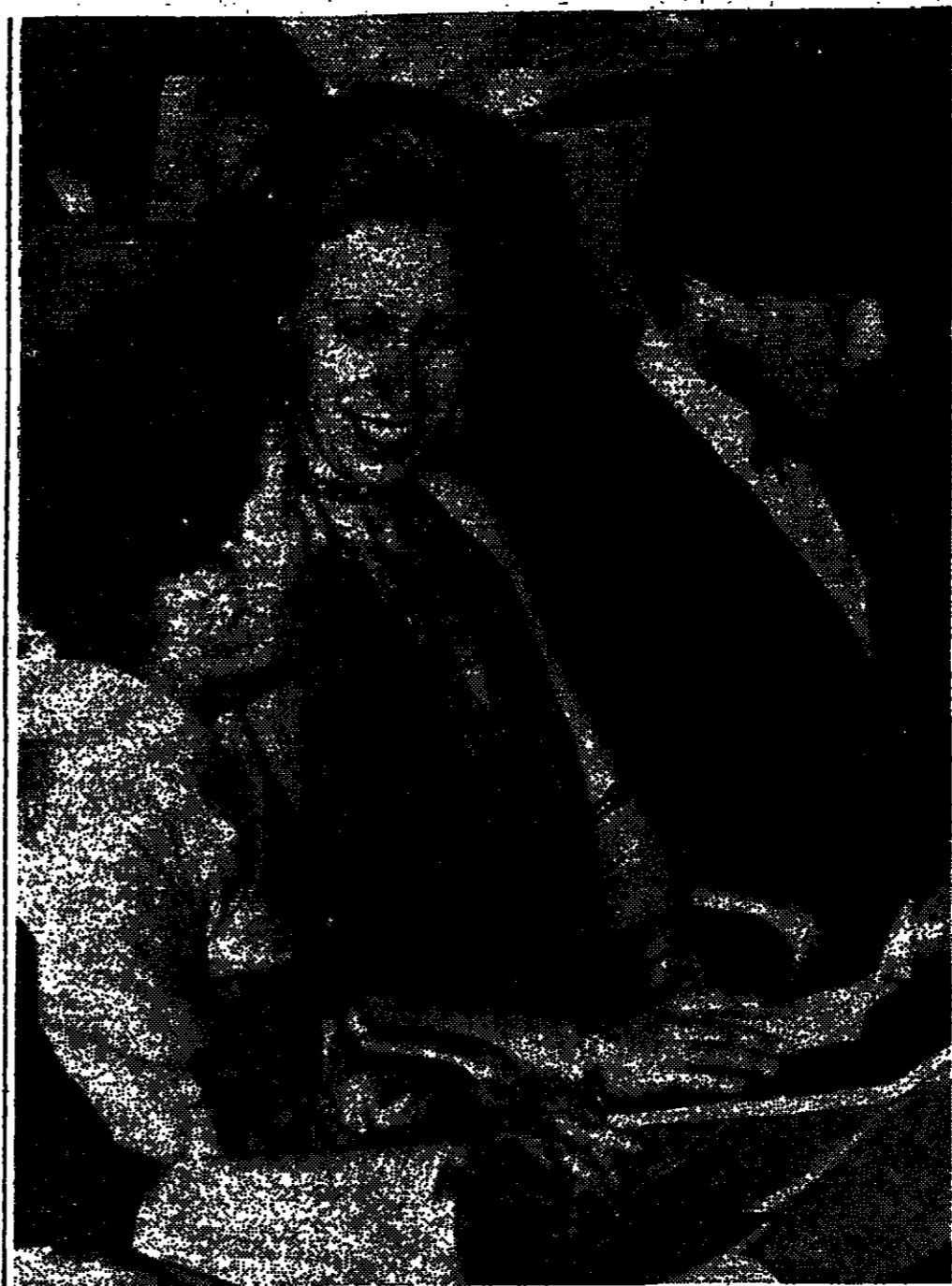
Nato's two leading naval commanders complained yesterday of being up to 50 per cent short of the warships they need in the Atlantic and English Channel.

A long-standing need for more frigates and destroyers has been sharpened by the preoccupation of some member countries with out-of-area operations like that around the Falklands command post at Northwood, Middlesex, which was also operational headquarters for last year's Falklands War.

Both Britain and America have been commissioning civilian vessels like trawlers and pleasure craft to complement new high-technology mine counter-measures vessels now coming into service.

The two men briefed Nato representatives, including Ambassador Eric da Rin, the Italian deputy secretary-general of the alliance, at Admiral Staveley's underground command post at Northwood, Middlesex, which was also operational headquarters for last year's Falklands War.

Admiral McDonald identified the submarine fleet as the "most dire threat" facing the alliance. Britain, he disclosed, had been preparing to take the Araphis, an American experimental container ship converted to carry anti-submarine



Night at the ballet: Princess Anne talking with Japan's Princess Chichiko before last night's performance in Tokyo by Britain's earlier Princess Anne, on the sixth day of a Japanese tour with Captain Mark Phillips, inaugurated Austin Rover Japan, the car company's new marketing operation, at a ceremony in Tokyo.

## Watered-down jobs pact given MEPs' approval

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels

The European Parliament yesterday voted through a much watered-down "employment pact" for the Community which calls for a more concerted European action and great cooperation between member states to settle the unemployment problem.

It was the first session to be held in Brussels and attracted the highest-ever attendance of MEPs.

The big turnout of 364 of the 434 members underlined Parliament's concern about the subject. But the resolution they agreed after two days of debate was immediately condemned by Mr George Deburys, general-secretary of the 30 million-strong European Trade Union confederation, as being inadequate.

The resolution, he said, did not give sufficient weight to the Council of Ministers and the Commission that they should do something to tackle the problem. He did not believe the proposals themselves contained anything which could help improve the situation.

The centre-right majority within the Parliament voted down all references in the final resolution to the idea of increasing public spending to create jobs.

The main resolution was based on the report drawn up by Mr Estrachos Papanastriou of the Greek People's Party. But the Parliament rejected his call

for a modest reflation by countries with stronger economies, and turned down his suggestion that national governments should commit at least 1 per cent of their gross national product to joint investment projects.

The main overall demand agreed was for a doubling of the Community's social regional funds, which are the main weapons in the hands of the Commission for launching projects to create jobs.

Nobody claimed that this package of resolutions was in any way a miracle cure for unemployment, and the Socialists and French communist groups were so annoyed at what they felt was the weakness of the main resolution was that they voted against it.

Sir Fred Catherwood, Conservative MEP for Cambridge, said afterwards that the most important contribution which the community could make towards solving the unemployment problem was to build a stable currency.

He would be pressing the British Government to help by becoming full members of the European Monetary System.

● **Lead-free zone:** A motion calling on the European Commission to rush through proposals which would make the EEC a "lead-free petrol zone" will be placed before the Parliament in June.

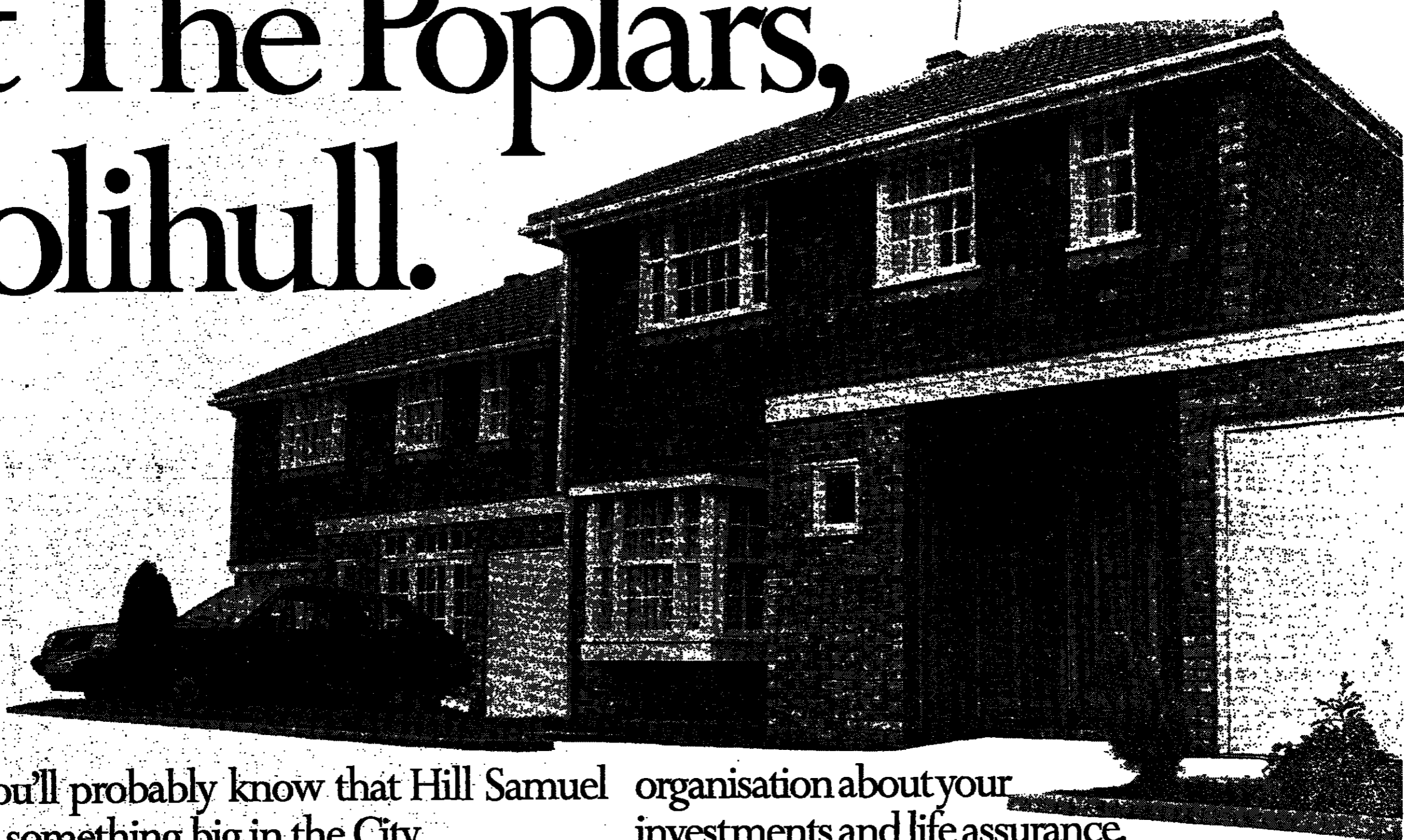
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# Hill Samuel.

## Pretty big in the City, absolutely huge at The Poplars, Solihull.



You'll probably know that Hill Samuel means something big in the City.

Fine. But why do we claim to be so important down your own particular street?

Quite simply, we offer a range of services to protect the financial future of you and yours.

You can talk to us about Unit Trusts. Life Assurance. International Investments. Pensions. And a Personal Portfolio Management Service.

We already have investments worth over £4,500,000,000 on our books.

And we employ a team of experts who know how to avoid the problems and pitfalls of the world's investment markets.

Best of all, dealing with Hill Samuel means that you only have to talk to one

organisation about your investments and life assurance.

If you'd like to know more about the way we work, just return the coupon.

Wherever you happen to live, whatever size your personal budget, we've got big plans for you.

I'd like to know more about the different financial services that you can offer. Please send me details.

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To put your financial house in order,  
come to ours.

# Spanish coup officers have prison terms upheld or heavily increased

From Our Own Correspondent Madrid

The Spanish Supreme Court yesterday upheld the maximum sentences of 30 years imprisonment on two senior Army officers for their role in the attempted coup of February, 1981, and raised the sentence of a third officer, General Alfonso Armada, from six to the maximum 30 years.

The authorities had appealed to the Supreme Court against sentences handed down last June by a military court martial on 33 people involved in the plot.

The Supreme Court increased the sentences in 21 of the 33 cases brought before it, only one of which concerned a civilian. It also quashed the acquittals of all eight parliamentary civil guard lieutenants who helped to storm Parliament, dismissing the military judges' findings of due obedience to superior orders as contrary to military regulations.

Senior Juan Garcia, the only civilian, was found guilty of conspiring in a military rebellion and had his two-year sentence confirmed.

Five more senior officers, headed by General Luis Torres, had the court martial findings changed from conspiracy to active participation in military rebellion. General Torres was given 12 years instead of six, and Colonel Jose San Martin received 10 years instead of three.

Seven of the eight Civil Guard lieutenants received one year prison sentences. The



Above: Generals Armada (left) and del Bosch, 30 years each. Below: Colonel Tejero (left), 30 years, and General Torres Rojas, 12 years.



Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, who led the civil guards in storming Parliament, whose 30-year sentence were confirmed yesterday.

General Milans, aged 68 and head of a military family over generations with great prestige in extreme right-wing military and civilian circles, General Armada, aged 63, and Colonel Tejero will be dismissed the service. Like all those found guilty, they will do their prison terms in military establishments.

The trial itself could not under the law be held before the civilian courts in the initial stages, and the officers cannot be sent to civilian jails because the code of military justice has not yet been reformed by Parliament.

The findings, coming just over two years and two months after Parliament and the full Cabinet were held hostage for 18 hours, were pronounced by Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, as "extraordinarily clear and absolutely respectable". He said the court's message was that no one could rebel against the constitutional order with impunity.

Certainly the findings underlined the leniency of the military tribunal last June and amply justified the appeal filed immediately afterwards by the Centre Democrat Government of the day.

However, they were described as "very hard" by Lieutenant-General Nunal Esquivias, president of the Supreme Council of Military

Justice, the body which formed last year's court martial.

Though promising to accept the findings, General Esquivias said the civilian court appeared to have applied maximum sentences "where we awarded the minimum ones". The military council is to review the findings next week.

The Supreme Court left open an appeal to the Government to commute the maximum sentences, as the council of military justice recommended last year.

Its 240-page finding, which was broadcast live by Spanish radio, rejected the procedural complaints of the defence. The plotters' use of terrorism and the doctrine of acting out of necessity, could not justify attacking Parliament or the constitutional set-up, the judges said.

The Supreme Court gave a five-day period to those found guilty to file clemency petitions to the Government. No decision has yet been taken by the military authorities where to send those found guilty, but some castles in the military's charge have been recently refurbished.

The Civil Guard officers, however, have already served their prison terms awaiting trial.

Defence counsel said that they are to appeal to Spain's constitutional court which, while not an appeal court against yesterday's findings, does have jurisdiction if a citizen's fundamental rights are deemed infringed.



## Twin's gift of a baby

Magali Cruzel (left), aged 31, smiling at her twin sister, Christine, in Montpellier last November, as they awaited the birth of Magali's child. On Wednesday in Nimes, Magali, who is sterile, had a son produced by Christine, who has been artificially inseminated by Magali's husband, Diana Geddes writes.

Magali, who suffered many of the pains and cravings of her sister during the pregnancy, was present throughout the birth of Stephanie. She said she had no problems feeling that he was her own child.

As the twins were produced from a single egg and have identical genes, Stephanie will have the same genetic make-up as if he had been produced by Magali.

# Insults and punches traded at Botha rally

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Punches and insults were traded at a rally addressed by Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, in Pretoria on Wednesday night, reflecting the increasing bitterness of the political campaigning in the run-up to four crucial by-elections in the Transvaal on May 10.

Tension at the rally - attended by about 1,500 people - mounted as Mr Botha was repeatedly heckled by members of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB), or Afrikaner Resistance Movement, an ultra-racist and undisciplined fascist organisation with a swastika-like emblem and black shirt youth wings.

Supporters of Mr Botha's ruling National Party pulled one heckler roughly to the ground as he tried to question the Prime Minister.

Mr Botha called one of his tormentors and orang-utan and referred to others as "white barbarians". He said he would ask Mr Louis le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, to conduct an immediate investigation into the AWB, adding: "We cannot allow these people to spread disorder".

The meeting was held in the well-to-do Waterkloof suburb of Pretoria where, the main challenge to the Government on May 10 will come from the liberal and staunchly anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party.

The four by-elections, three of them to parliamentary seats and one to a Provincial Council seat, are seen as a crucial test of right-wing opposition to the Government's modest constitutional reforms, which would give a strictly qualified franchise to the mixed-blood Coloured and Indian minorities.

Mr Botha has announced that the Draft Constitution Amendment Bill will be presented to Parliament early next week.

It was originally supposed to have been presented before the Easter Recess, and the delay led to charges that the Government was afraid to disclose details before the by-elections.

After the meeting Mr Botha called on the breakaway Conservative Party to tell South Africa that it had severed all links with the AWB.

The AWB, founded in the early 1970s, has links with the pro-Nazi organisation which opposed South Africa's entry into the Second World War, and to which Mr Botha himself belonged for a time.

Election background, page 12

# Greece fails to check rising tide of strikes

From Mario Mediano Athens

The Greek Government's resourceful efforts to check the rising tide of Labour unrest have apparently yielded no results, despite the invocation of external threats to the nation, methodical attempts to divide the strikers, and even a veiled warning that they would be mobilized and forced back to work.

The crews of 1,700 Athens public buses are staging wildcat strikes during peak traffic hours, demanding higher pay. They have been joined by the capital's 15,000 taxi drivers, who are unhappy about taxes. Tourist coaches were brought in to relieve the ensuring chaos, but confusion grew as the state television broadcast misleading reports that the bus strike was over.

Private school teachers have been on strike for three weeks pressing for greater job protection, while hospital doctors began a two-day stoppage yesterday because the Government is holding up a new health Bill which grants them higher salaries.

The Government has reacted against this unrest with a sledgehammer, probably because these are sensitive areas where strikes provoke anti-government feelings. The inner Cabinet met and decided to mobilize bus crews, after first giving them a chance to recant.

The ruling Pasok party's executive under Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, put out a stern statement. Just as the government of change is fighting the battle for national independence and the protection of Hellenism, one is astounded by this sudden eruption of strikes.

A few hours later, as the Government released telegrams from trade unions promising to stage no strikes while national independence was at stake, a big diplomatic row erupted with the United States about the future of the American bases in Greece and American military aid to Greece and Turkey.

More and more Greeks now suspect that the US-Greek crisis was artificial, the more so since the Government openly encouraged a huge anti-American rally in central Athens last night organized by the government-controlled General Confederation of Greek Workers.

At the root of the current uneasiness is the wage freeze for 1983 which the Government seems determined to enforce.

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# Soares weighs chances of forming coalition

From Susan MacDonal, Lisbon

President Eanes of Portugal yesterday had his first meeting with Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist Party leader, after his qualified victory in Monday's general election.

Dr Soares said afterwards that he had expressed concern over the country's economic situation and the need for a national consensus to resolve the crisis.

As the election results did not give the Socialist Party an overall majority and Dr Soares has stated that he will not form a minority government, he has taken a first step of sending out about 60,000 circulars asking his party members whether they prefer a coalition with the right-wing Christian Democrats, the centre Social Democrats or the Moscow-orientated Communist Party.

Answers must arrive at party headquarters by next Thursday

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# Muldoon uses royal tour for own ends

From James Oram, Auckland

Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, was yesterday again using the royal tour as an exercise in gathering support for his ailing National Party.

He has been doing it since the Prince and Princess of Wales arrived in New Zealand nearly two weeks ago. Muldoon's actions have caused annoyance and embarrassment to royal officials.

Day after day the squat figure of Mr Muldoon had been in the wake of the Prince and Princess, being seen prominently at functions no other national leader would dream of attending.

Mr Muldoon prefers royal walkabouts. He shakes hands with the crowd waiting to see the royal couple, chats, cracks jokes in the manner of a local MP visiting a village fête.

In Christchurch, yesterday, icy rain did not deter the Prime Minister from continuing with what many observers have called blatant politicking. Nor did Mr Muldoon mind using the occasion to give a couple of radio interviews.

is an embarrassment. "He turns up everywhere like a bad penny", one official said. "It is really incredible. In no other country do you get this. A prime minister is only seen on state occasions and certainly not on walkabouts. They are for the royal visitors and the public - not for politicians."

The reason for Mr Muldoon's search for every possible vote is the slipping popularity of his government and the fact that next year is election year. In a public opinion poll released yesterday Mr Muldoon's National Party received 31.3 per cent support.

The Labour Party, under its new leader, Mr David Lange, was close about its support, which stood at 52.4 per cent. The small Social Credit Party received 8.3 per cent.

Mr Muldoon's personal popularity has slipped from 38.9 per cent in a February poll to 34.8 per cent yesterday. Mr Lange scored 30.3 per cent.

CHRISTCHURCH: Yesterday the Prince and Princess of Wales walked about in the rain yet again in the heart of Christchurch, before going on to the Air Force base at Wigram to watch a flying display. Grania Forbes of the Press Association reports. Prince Charles wore his uniform of Air Commodore in Chief of the New Zealand Air Force.



Mini-hijack fails: Gene Kartz, of White Plains, New York, is searched on the ground by a policeman at Albany airport after trying to hijack the diminutive commuter aircraft to Portland, Maine.

# Police called in as 29th heart drug baby dies

From John Best, Ottawa

Toronto police are investigating the death of a baby whose body has been found to contain excessive levels of the powerful heart drug Digoxin.

The death on Saturday of seven-month-old Gary Murphy, of Kitchener, Ontario, is the latest of 29 infant deaths at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children linked to possible overdoses of the drug.

Only the day before Mr Roy McMurtry, the Ontario Attorney-General, announced a public inquiry into the deaths of the other 28 babies, which occurred between July, 1980, and March, 1981. All the deaths have occurred in the hospital's cardiac ward.

At least seven are believed to have been caused by deliberate overdoses of Digoxin.

Nurse Susan Nelles, was discharged on four charges of first-degree murder after a preliminary hearing last May. The judge ruled that there was insufficient evidence to send the case to trial.

But he said there was no doubt that at least some of the infants had been murdered. Miss Nelles has been on paid leave from the hospital since being discharged.

The most recent deaths occurred despite a new drug distribution system at the hospital which allows only single doses of drugs such as Digoxin to be administered.

A coroner decided to call in the police after a post-mortem examination revealed high levels of Digoxin

# 15,000 fight fires ravaging Japan

Tokyo (Reuters) - nearly 15,000 firemen, troops and police using helicopters yesterday fought forest fires in northern Japan which have destroyed about 60 houses and made 240 people homeless.

The fires, which broke out in dry weather and were fanned by high winds on Wednesday, were yesterday still burning in five areas of northern Honshu, Japan's main island.

Six people were injured and 240 made homeless, mainly in the Pacific coast city of Kuji in Iwate prefecture, and in districts near Sendai city in Miyagi prefecture.

On Wednesday night, about 1,000 people were evacuated from Kuji and a town nearby when the wind drove the flames close to their homes.

About two dozen fires broke out in mountainous northern Honshu on Wednesday. One began as a controlled burning-off operation by woodmen, but sudden high winds turned it into a blaze.

YOKOHAMA: Seaborn traffic in Yokohama port, one of the world's busiest, was halted for more than two hours yesterday after a tanker collision caused highly inflammable naphtha to leak into the water, Reuters reports.

Traffic in Yokohama port resumed after most of the leaked naphtha had vaporized, it said. The chemical tanker was carrying 1,276 kilolitres of naphtha.

# Police save Valencia leader from lynch mob

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Hundreds of policemen took part in the rescue of the battered and bruised Señor Joan Lerma, the Chief Minister of the Valencia Region's home-rule government, from a lynch-minded mob that surrounded a cinema where the Socialist politician was to have delivered a campaign speech.

According to reports reaching here yesterday, Señor Lerma was insulted on Wednesday night by a crowd estimated by the police at between 6,000 and 7,000, outside the cinema in the steel town of Sagunto, near Valencia. It is here that the Government plans to close down part of the money-losing, state-owned Altos Hornos del Mediterraneo mill.

The incident was the most serious so far since the campaign began for nationwide municipal elections and some regional elections to be held on Sunday week.

As the crowd moved in and attacked Señor Lerma, his bodyguards and the policemen on duty surrounded him and moved into the relative safety of the cinema.

Two shots were reported to have been fired in the scuffle but no one was hurt.

Members of the Socialist Youth Movement blamed the violence on the Communist Workers' Commissions, the Communist Party and the Conservative Popular Alliance.

# Clash of ideologies

## Warsaw's liberals take on hardliners

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A party meeting, writes the Soviet satirist Vladimir Voinovich, is an arrangement whereby a large number of people gather together, some to say what they really do not think, some not to say what they really do.

And such, we can safely predict, will be the course of affairs at the long-awaited plenary session of Poland's Communist Party Central Committee, due to begin in the next few weeks.

The real battle is being fought now, in the factories and the press, with a remarkable venom. The subject of the session is ideology: that is, the continued relevance of Marxism-Leninism to the problems facing Poland. Not, one might think, a subject that need detain anybody for very long.

It is possible, indeed customary, to reduce the protagonists in this conflict to those Marxists committed to more or less radical economic reform accompanied by much milder political adjustments (liberals), and those dogmatic Marxists whose suspicion of change overrides even their disapproval of the status quo (hardliners).

The reason that this conflict has more than theatrical quality is the choice of weapons, with the hardliners building up support by preying on the fears of workers who have seen their standard of living collapse in the past year.

The Government, with the support of the liberals, is trying to introduce an economic reform which decentralizes some parts of the economy, giving management more initiative and workers more say in production. But at the same time it is trying to pull the country out of crisis.

These are two separate processes, but in the imagination of many workers they have fused into one. Reform is being identified with unrewarded sacrifice.

The dogmatic Marxists have scented the discontent, voiced loudly enough at a recent meeting between 2,000 workers and General Jaruzelski, and are representing themselves as the true standard-bearers of the working class. This may be sincerely meant but it is, say the liberals, undermining popular confidence in reform in the very place it counts - the factory.

The liberals have hit back from three different directions. Colonel Stanislaw Kwiatkowski, who heads the Government's new public opinion research centre, wrote recently that the

opposition in Poland - that is, the Solidarity underground - was largely intellectual and should be dealt with accordingly. The Government should be trying to win the support of the populace and thus isolate the intellectuals, rather than hit them over the head, a policy much favoured by the hardliners, or the "ideological gendarmes", as he calls them.

### US broadcasts 'slanderous'

Warsaw (NYT, AFP) - The Polish Government told the US yesterday that American radio broadcasts to Poland were aggressive and slanderous. A formal protest, made public by the PAF news agency, said Polish-language broadcasts by the Voice of America and by Radio Free Europe were intended to destabilize the situation in Poland.

The Polish Foreign Ministry has also closed the American library in Warsaw for showing films and television programmes defaming the Polish Government.

The second line comes from Mr Ludwik Krasuski, an editor of the ideological journal *Nowe Drogi*. Writing in the weekly *Polityka*, he makes clear that he considers the hardliners and their "populist demagoguery" as more of a threat to the policies of General Jaruzelski than those who quietly sympathize with Solidarity.

The third, more scholarly, line of attack comes from Mr Wladyslaw Markiewicz, a noted professor of sociology, who in a recent interview indicated that the sectional loyalty of the hardliners, above all to the party bureaucrats most threatened by reform, had blinded them to the reality that Socialism can be creatively reformed.

It remains to be seen whether this unusually sharp in-fighting will lead to adjustments.

Most liberals argue that General Jaruzelski is firmly in the saddle and can ride out a bout of cynicism, although they admit that the hardliners will never be stamped out.

The hardliners argue, in the jargon of child psychology, that they are misunderstood: they are not pushing to take over power, or sabotage policies. They simply believe that more rather than less Socialism is what will solve Poland's internal problems.

## Swedes launch protest over Baltic crackdown

From Christopher Mosley, Stockholm

Sweden yesterday launched a fresh protest against the Soviet Union, this time over a crackdown by the authorities in the Baltic republics of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia.

In a toughly-worded statement sent to all foreign journalists in Stockholm, the Foreign Minister, Mr Lennart Bodstrom, referred to a recent wave of arrests in the Baltic states and said: "Sweden was prepared to raise the matter before the United Nations Commission for Human Rights. Coming immediately after the recall of the Swedish Ambassador from Moscow and the public denouncement of Soviet submarine incursions into Swedish waters, the statement has done nothing to improve deteriorating Swedish-Soviet relations."

Sweden also announced yesterday that it would not be attending the May Day parade in Moscow's Red Square. There was jubilation among MPs over the cancellation of a visit to Moscow by Danish Social Democrats in protest at Soviet submarine violations.

These developments seem to be part of a drive by Mr Olof Palme's Social Democratic Government to counter allegations in Western diplomatic circles that Sweden is "soft" on communist abuse of power and that the country's traditional policy of armed neutrality leans too far east.

Mr Bodstrom said several reports have been received recently which point to a general intensification of controls in the Baltic states. Leading article, page 13

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**ABBEY NATIONAL MONEY SERVICE**

Snooker changed when it was plucked from the clubs and reset on the living-room television. Now it faces new pressures. As the world championship reaches a climax, fortunes are at stake

# Lords of the baize battlefield

By Neil Lyndon

The manager can play the game. "Not like these guys. I mean, I'm not very good. Except when I play for money. Then I'm very hard to beat. For bets, you know, in billiard halls. I love that."

"Is the betting serious?"  
"Depends if you call three or four thousand serious."  
"Don't you?"  
"No."

The manager is very prosperous. In drizzly Sheffield, his fair face is ruddy with costly tan. His suit is richly heavy and hangs smooth to the millimetre. His silk tie, too new to make a tight knot, is a thirty-note touch. He recently sold his business. "I got greedy, I couldn't resist." The buyers paid him millions. He owned 16 snooker halls in Romford and the eastern outskirts of London. He was in it for ten years, but "it's a very physical business, the halls." Now Barry Hearn is managing the affairs of Steve Davis, Tony Meo and Terry Griffiths because "it's fun", he says, because "we have a fabulous time" and because "they're going to gross a million quid this year. That's fabulous, isn't it?"

As the comet snooker accelerates into a measureless stratosphere of riches, many of its desperate hangers-on are unhappy about the speeding changes they witness, and they pine for the vanished innocence in which they were more comfortable. Middle-aged men in shabby suits could often be overheard in Sheffield last week, backstage at the Crucible, condoling with each other and saying, "All the pleasure's gone, hasn't it? It's all so serious now. There's too much money involved." It is a familiar lament, which also rises from the sad amateurs who can no longer control, with unquestioned authority, the purse-strings of golf, tennis, cricket and athletics.

Barry Hearn is sitting very comfortably on the comet, as much as a pilot as a passenger, personifying snooker's new order. Managing Steve Davis's earnings, he has recently bought land in Scotland and buildings in Bond Street. "You're talking about major investments there. I think it's pathetic when a top sportsman says it's the height of his ambition to own a pub." Much of the income of Hearn's players derives from special appearances and commercial endorsements: clothing and "male perfumes" are about to appear, bearing their names. "We don't do the clubs

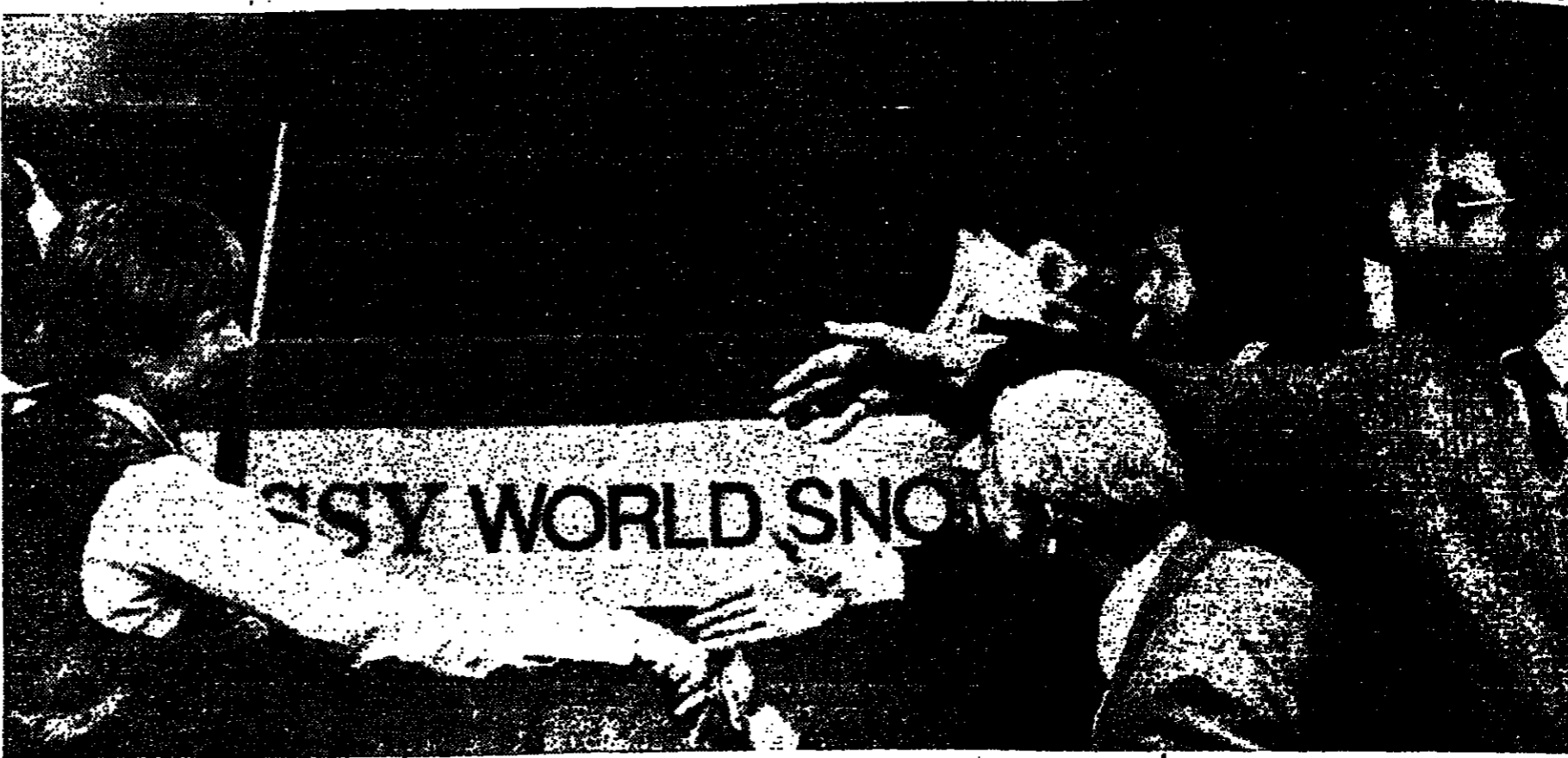
much any more. They can't afford us. The game's had about as much exposure in this country as it can take. We're interested in developments overseas now. We went to Bangkok with Steve Davis and they went mad there. Mad. There was 40 foot high posters of Davis all over Bangkok. It was like being in Romford High Street."

The manager is enjoying himself no end. "Always have. I love it. I know it sounds like *All Our Yesterdays*, but it was only a few years ago that we were going up and down the motorway for 25 quid for Steve Davis to play in clubs. I had to bet. It was the only way we could cover our expenses. Now he's going to be a millionaire many times over." Hearn thinks that the growth of snooker in this country will continue. "Women," he says. "Women. They're

## The sponsor is contented; the old hand is less happy

only just coming into it. There's another 50 per cent of the market to go."

"The sponsor is contented, too. Don Whiting, sponsored events executive of Imperial Tobacco, is confident that a more than adequate return is accruing to Embassy cigarettes for its outlay on the snooker world championship. This year, Embassy are putting up £135,000 in prize money and a further unspecified amount for the organisation of the tournament (some part of which will be accounted for by a press room lavishly supplied with free food and drink and telephones, dished out by handsome women all dressed in cigarette packet colours). Whiting hectorically denies that Embassy's cause is helped by the players' furious smoking. "Red herring," he says. "We also sponsor events like rugby league and opera where the participants can't be seen smoking." Red herring.



The faces of fate: above, Alex Higgins, the people's champion, acknowledges their adoration; below left, Barry Hearn (left) with his defeated protégé Tony Meo (centre); below right, Bill Werbeniuk resigns himself to the force of the hurricane

The sponsor is delighted that the growing wealth of the game is attracting many new players, "expanding the pool of professionals". The old hand is less happy. Ray Reardon says: "People are coming into the game solely for the money today. They win a game at Pontin's and they want to turn professional. Where's the love of the game?"

Reardon, now 50, has been a professional for 30 years. "There was no money in it then. It was all in the clubs. But you had your social life and you looked after your opponent. I loved it. I still do. I'll still do the clubs. I'm negotiable."

The old hand says that one aspect of snooker has not changed. "Snooker players are a breed apart. They're not completely themselves when they're not playing. See, when I get it right and I'm in charge of myself, then I'm unbeatable and I'm complete. Sometimes I go out there and I don't know what I'm doing or who I am. But I'm a Jekyll and Hyde and I can't control it; never have been able to. I wish I could be like Steve Davis. I'd be unstoppable, incomparable, if I was like him."

Two of the men apart are at the table, a fat man and a thin man. Bill Werbeniuk flops on to the table to make a shot and struggles to rise like a bull seal stranded on a rock. Alex Higgins is a thin spring-wired to the highest tension. He starts and quivers at any noise in the auditorium. Knots and ganglia of nerves tremble in his face as he sits between breaks, far gone in wild dialogue between the sides of himself.

Both the fat man and the thin man are very angry with the press. After one of their quarter-final sessions, Higgins hurtles through the backstage area aiming an obscenity at a reporter and

withdrawing to his dressing room. Werbeniuk has a stand-up row in the corridor with reporters from popular papers to whom he will not speak, he says, unless they give him a letter undertaking to print what he says, rather than what they invent. He will talk to *The Times*.

Werbeniuk says that "this game of snooker that I'm participating in and which I love" is being "called down" by the popular papers and his pleasure is being spoiled. If he can't continue to enjoy the game, he says, he will leave it. "I've already turned down two opportunities to get extremely rich through business outside snooker and I can get others." The game, he says, is suffering from its growth and from greed. "Some of the players haven't realised that there's very little difference, after tax, between earning £200,000 and £400,000 and they're rushing up and down the country like yo-yos doing exhibitions and appearances when they should be practising."

As he is speaking, the door opens and one of the spurned reporters reappears to plead: "Forget about the mood merchants, Bill. Talk to the regular lads. You'll be sorry if you don't." Werbeniuk looks fierce. "I don't want to talk about it."

A white Rolls Royce chauffeured by a boy in liveried grey awaits Werbeniuk at the stage-door. He stands by Blithe Spirit to pose for photographs, an Arbuckle grande in his splendour, with children grinning into the camera behind and a mad old man in a blue woolly hat making cueing gestures beside him.

In the press room, the unblinkingly confident Steve Davis is giving literature lessons: "If you can keep your head while all about you is crumbling - that's a classic from a book." The gentlemen of letters look

uneasy. "I think that's a misinterpretation, Steve," says one. "Well, let's hope I can go on misinterpreting through the next two rounds."

Absent from all public discussion is the snooker-hall scruff, the player himself. Davis and Werbeniuk may become nabobs of property and finance but Higgins will remain the urchin forever unreformed. By no means can he be anything but himself, neither more nor less than a snooker-player. His attempts to dignify himself in spats and silks to match the rich sartorial exactness of young contenders

## Higgins will remain the urchin, forever unreformed

like Tony Meo and Tony Knowles will be thwarted by a body like a bag of sticks and an intensity of mental activity which mocks studied vanities of dress.

Like Bobby Fischer, Higgins is so engrossed in the mental exactions of his play that he can stand no interruption to the urgent chatter of his thoughts, so referees and reporters and noisy spectators are all intolerable intrusions to him. The table becomes more than a puzzle of points as he glares and frets upon it: the pattern of coloured balls turns into an analogue

of his own mind and in playing snooker he is completely playing himself. He is the most cerebral of all players, indifferent to the remorseless tortures of drink and nicotine which which he batters his body.

Who was the television producer or director who saw, more than a decade ago, that snooker was perfectly designed for the aesthetics and the economics of the medium? Three studio cameras cut round the table with a limitless variety of shots; there are only two characters and a referee to pay; and a tight, intimate drama of competition is the focus. Pretty, too, with all those colours. He deserves a royalty from snooker. From *Pot Black* has grown a sporting industry which is the envy even of the mighty money-makers of tennis and golf and which perfectly embodies the presiding principle which applies equally to motor-racing and boxing and tennis: the television audience is all; the suckers who go to sit and watch are merely fodder for the cameras. Dummies and taped crowd noises would do as well.

Snooker is not a sport for a large crowd of spectators and never was it only works for a gathering of intimates, grouped closely around the table, squinting at the angles over the players' shoulders and making side bets on every play. The intimates gathered around the tables of the World Professional Snooker Championship are the millions of members of the television audience, for theirs is the magnified and close up view that every punter covets. The seated audience is an attendant cast of extras, waiting upon the rising and falling of princes who cue for matchless prizes. A sennet; loud noises off; enter two lords, left and right; they play for the championship of the world.

### Next week in Spectrum

Monday: How Gorky Park was transplanted to Scandinavia  
Tuesday and Wednesday: The heroin epidemic. Addiction figures are rising throughout Britain, thanks to cut-price imports from the Golden Crescent.

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 49)

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SOLUTION TO No 48  
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(Solution to No. 45 on Monday)  
Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise English

## Where Ruskin complained of the view of Browning

Before I leave the subject of Venice, I must warn intending visitors that there are two kinds of Briton to be found all over that great but sinking city: package tourists and people writing books about the place. I would guess that the latter is the bigger group. Even in one week I met authors doing research for the following titles:

- The Washing Lines of Venice.
- The Cass of Venice.
- Vanished Islands of Venice.
- Places Where Ruskin Stayed.
- Places Where Byron Didn't Stay.

Until these are written, most tourists make do with copies of either James Morris's *Venice or Pleasure*, both excellent. You can tell they are excellent from the quotes on the covers. Morris's book is "the best modern book about a city I have read" (Geoffrey Grigson). Link's is "one of the most delightful and original guides ever written about the city - any city, for that matter", according to no less a man than James Morris. Not to be outdone, Bernard Levin calls it "not only the best guide-book to that city ever written, but the best guide-book to any city ever written."

## Moreover... Miles Kingdon

Perhaps feeling left out of things, Link himself on p. 95 of his book calls James Morris "by far the city's best twentieth-century chronicler". Levin does not seem to have written a book about Venice for Links to praise, but undaunted he recommends on p. 151 the "Vecia Cavana, favourite Venetian restaurant of that well-known gourmet, Mr Bernard Levin". As I said, Britons in Venice are either package tourists or authors, and it is hard to say which is the tighter-knit group.

This may explain why books on Venice tend to treat buildings as important only if they have been visited by English writers. Ruskin stayed here, but did not like the view, is one famous comment. Byron first stayed here in Venice, is another, and seduced his landlord's wife. Browning did a lot of staying, died here as well. Wagner moved from the gloomy Daniell hotel to the Palazzo Giustinian, where he cheered himself up by writing *Tristan*. As we have been told so often, Venice is a very homogeneous city, which is another way of saying that all the streets

are more or less the same, so I hit on an ingenious idea for not writing a book about Venice myself. All the traveller needs is one sheet of paper to hold and read as walks round, to describe everywhere. Here it is.

★

On your right, notice a large palazzo. Palazzo is the Italian word for an otherwise undistinguished house in which a famous English writer has stayed. Here Ruskin stayed for a while, though he left after complaining of the view of Browning opposite.

Round the corner we will find a charming bridge, on which James Morris once stopped a passer-by to ask him for the name of a good restaurant. The good-natured stranger, who was none other than Bernard Levin, tipped the Vecia Cavana, and even gave him several cards for the place, recommending the spaghetti con cozze.

The canal which passes under the bridge was the scene of a strange naval disaster in the 1870s when Mr Wagner's grand piano, being transported from the Daniell Hotel, broke loose

and sank. It blocked shipping for eight months; after it had been raised Browning moved into it for a short while.

Pass on to No 3984, which was a convent until the early nineteenth century, but which was closed down after Byron had visited it and seduced most of the occupants. It is now a small museum dedicated to the memory of the Ruskins' dog, though it is not listed in any guide book, perhaps because it has not been found open since 1927.

The next church is known to the locals as *La Chiesa di San Roberto*, after Browning who lived there briefly but had to leave after Ruskin (but not Wagner) complained about the noisy late parties. There is a pleasing portrait of Santa Camilla, with which Lord Byron is said to have fallen in love for a while, and a leaflet in English which was described by Bernard Levin, or perhaps J.G. Links, as the best guide to any church in Venice, or indeed the world.

Passing the next canal, along which Lord Byron swam in his heroic swim across Venice, we come to the palazzo in which Wagner wrote his tragic opera *Ruskin*.

Conclude with a refreshing cup of coffee at the Bar di Giacomo Maurizio, named after James Morris but now renamed the Glancing Maurizio.

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FRIDAY PAGE

Gillian Moore finds more to be collected than the auctioneer knows

"This is the doing something with my life." The handsome middle-aged woman who had enrolled on Sotheby's Collectors' Week was a newcomer to the nuances of stoneware, ceramics and Japanese ivories. After 20 years of marriage to a Scottish farmer she is a fine judge of a Friesian cow or a collier, but with a divorce behind her and a new home in Kentish communitarian, those skills no longer count. Nobody wants to employ a woman in her forties without formal qualifications. The man she lives with wants to marry her but she resists being hustled willy-nilly into a second mistake. She discovered the pleasures of collecting last December when she fell in love with a Biedermeier mirror in an antique shop and found herself saying: "I want that. Why shouldn't I have it?" From that moment, she pinned her hopes for a new start on antiques.



The romantic objects of art's desire

Maybe the experts could summon more facts, but her taste, she had decided, was as valid as theirs. She knows now that she is not too old to acquire a new talent and she is ready to try a spot of collecting. Her parting words: "I've come alive." The agents of this revival were 10 of Sotheby's auction room experts who scamped through their specialties and discussed objects coming up for sale, Sotheby's runs their Collectors' Week four times a year as a public relations exercise to encourage new customers into the saleroom. It is very effective, they say, but it makes virtually no profit and might be at risk under a sterner new regime. All the same, at £150 it is no great bargain and the most prominent participants were wealthy collectors from Belgium, Singapore and America who were boning up for forthcoming sales.

men, but one was a dealer and the other had vanished by Monday afternoon. The mixed bunch of heiresses, housewives and lonely hearts being trilled with desirable objects by Sotheby's are just the top end of a booming leisure industry. NADFAS, the National Association of Dealers of Antiques and Fine Arts Societies, occupies the middle range. Founded in 1968, it already boasts 27,500 members and is still opening about 10 new branches a year. The mass market, for instance, culture is served by the National Trust Centres, independent local supporters' clubs for the National Trust, which began in a small way in 1948, started mushrooming in the 1970s, and now have 100,000 members between them. Both NADFAS and the National Trust Centres, put on lectures and study days on art and antiques, and organize guided trips and voluntary work.

accommodate single people in single rooms. The big hotels that put on cultural events have a different formula for success. Their aim is to make the art so innocuous that you can even bring your husband along if you have one. When the Imperial at Torquay gets Arthur Negus down for an antiques weekend it wads the lectures between so many champagne receptions and gastronomic dinners that even the philistines could doze through them painlessly. I went on a weekend of tours round country houses offered by the Grosvenor in Chester, along with two very good courses who wanted to see a fresh bit of countryside, a quiet widow and a pair of middle-aged newly-weds who were using the occasion to let off some steam. At our communal dinner table the husband, barely out of earshot of his wife, gave his end of the table a lurid account of what she could expect if he ever caught her being unfaithful. Next day discretion returned and we concentrated on spying on the owners of the country houses, their dogs and their Sunday lunches, all of which afforded richer entertainment than their pictures and their Persian carpets. One might have expected a more committed class of person to turn up in Worthing at one of the summer porcelain seminars arranged by Geoffrey Godden, chairman and author of standard works in his field. And indeed the audience on my weekend included some dealers and serious collectors. But my neighbour was an elderly widow who confided that she had come to lessen the disappointment of two puppies she had bought not being delivered on the day they had been promised. She liked china, she often bought a piece as a souvenir when she went on holiday, and she had come with a friend a few months before to another of Godden's seminars. She had been nervous of coming this time on her own in case nobody spoke to her. In the event, she managed to talk to strangers and enjoy herself. Godden is wise enough to lay on refreshments at frequent intervals to defuse the social wheels turning. If women were filling themselves with art just for the sake of the company, one would feel desperately sorry for them sitting through all those words and slides in order to arrive at the coffee break. They must genuinely like what they are learning, though, otherwise they would have stayed with the ladies' luncheon club and the charity jumble sales. In entertaining themselves, they are keeping a great many museum curators and junior auctioneers in pocket money, even though the successes - and the boom in all these courses - must be rated more in terms of happy exchanges than of uplifted minds.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Persuasion at a premium

Persuading parents to have their children immunized against diphtheria, polio and tetanus has become increasingly difficult since the scare over the safety of the whooping cough vaccine. But just because there are fewer cases of these diseases now does not mean that the diseases have disappeared - the cases of diphtheria in London last year illustrate the point. In America it is compulsory for all school children to be vaccinated - an approach that would be unlikely to make any headway in this country.

The intention of the Department of Transport's initiative would be to rehabilitate problem drinkers: they would be banned from driving for three years and they would then have to prove they had overcome their drinking problems. Dr James Dunbar, who took part in the Tayside survey, believes it would be relatively easy for barred drink/drivers to mislead the court into believing they had controlled their drinking using the Department of Transport's criteria.

develop kidney problems later in life. Ten years ago few anywhere in Europe would have been treated because doctors doubted that therapy would do any good. Now, however, they acknowledge its benefits and, according to the latest statistics from the European Dialysis and Transplant Association - which keeps tabs on all kidney patients - the number of European diabetics receiving a kidney transplant or dialysis has shot up twentyfold since 1976.

Accusing Africa

As the number of people with AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) escalates - over 1200 cases have been reported in the United States and although official UK figures are lacking, 22 cases have been seen in one London hospital alone - the heat is on for epidemiologists to find the cause. As a consequence the traditional vehicle of medical debate - the letters pages of the learned journals - have been ringing with ideas. No fewer than five letters to the *Lancet* discussed the problem last week.

Mystery ingredient

The Nigerian equivalent of the hamburger, *suya*, is causing alarm to doctors in Lagos because a number of people are suffering from a peculiar form of anaemia and jaundice after eating it. *Suya* is a popular barbecued beefsteak sold in roadside stalls. Meat covered with a red powder which turns brown on cooking seems to be the culprit and the first ill effects occur a couple of days after eating it.

Drink deterrent

Doctors in Dundee are concerned that an initiative from the Department of Transport to track down problem drinkers who commit more than one drink/driving offence may backfire because the department's selection test is too arbitrary. The department intends to look into the drinking habits of drivers who are found to have 200mg to 100ml of alcohol in the blood on two occasions in a ten-year period.

Three of them pointed an accusing finger at Africa where a condition similar to AIDS - depressed immune defences which lay the sufferer open to infections and cancers - is endemic. The suggestion is that the American AIDS epidemic has suddenly developed because a pathogen, probably a virus, common to other parts of the world has got into a very vulnerable and promiscuous population - most AIDS patients so far have been homosexuals.

AIDS in a Danish surgeon working in Zaire and Zairian woman and her children are noted in the letters. Doctors at the Harvard School of Public Health point out that AIDS first appeared in Haiti in 1971, the same year that African Swine Fever virus hit the island. Possibly a modification of that virus is the culprit, they suggest.

Diabetics at risk

The economic squeeze on the NHS has made the United Kingdom one of the worst places in Europe to be a diabetic with kidney disease. A third of Britain's 250,000 diabetics who need daily insulin injections to keep them alive will

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Olivia Timbs is editor of *Medical Economics* and Lorraine Fraser is science editor of *General Practitioner*.

Shirley Lowe meets Twiggy as she begins the beguine on Broadway

It's like Fred and Ginger all over again... innit?

Back in 1967, when she was 17, Twiggy made a film called *Twiggy in New York* to promote a range of clothes bearing her name. "Oh cut this fringe mess!" she told the crowd who admired her Minnieboon hair and nearly ethnic headband. A man on the pavement was unimpressed: "She'll last a couple of weeks," he said. Twiggy is now back in New York and on Sunday she opens on Broadway singing and dancing like Ginger to Tommy Tune's Fred in a remake and rewrite of Gershwin's *Funny Girl*, retitled *My One and Only*. The American adores her - no mean achievement in a culture obsessed with the Dolly Parton silhouette - and at every preview they stop the show and applaud wildly as she slips onto the stage in clinging white satin.



Twiggy with top hat, tails and Tommy Tune

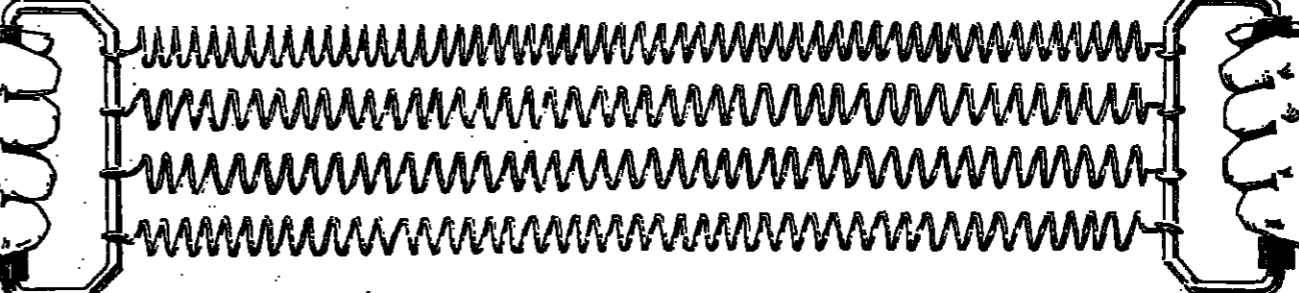
Twiggy has never been much of a talker. "Oh like it 'ere," she announced at one press conference soon after she arrived. Pressed for her reasons, she turned to Justin: "What do you like?" What she says is often unmemorable but her way of saying it is irresistibly appealing, which is probably why interviewers so often quote her "mish" and "norris" London "now" vowel sounds. She still has the accent, and when she is supposed to be speaking terribly posh on stage it tends to slip out: "Yer've gotta be joking!" Everything in her life says Twiggy has just sort of happened to her. "It's like I never planned anything. I was very content, very happy being a model. It was marvelous, really. I was making all that money and then, one day, I was having dinner with my mate, Ken Russell, when I happened to say I had seen *The Boyfriend* and somebody had suggested I ought to do a film of it."

He said: "Oh great, I'll direct it." So, after MGM, who owned the story, had had a heart attack about Twiggy starring in their film - "They didn't know whether Lucille Ball and sing or not and whether did I" - she made *The Boyfriend* and that's where she got to know Tommy Tune, the dancer/baker/choreographer/director/Tony award winner who put the new show together. "I came out to the States because I was doing a film called *W* - and that's how I met Michael (she married American actor Michael Whitley six years ago) and he kept on going on at me to do *Liza in Exton* before I was too old, or I wouldn't have done that, either."

The Whitneys were moving back to Britain from Los Angeles when all this happened and, although Twiggy is honoured to be on Broadway - "It's a giant step forward for me" - it has postponed the house in the country just outside London which she believes is the ideal place to bring up a child. At the moment they are living in a rented apartment in New York. Carly goes to a very good Montessori school nearby and a friend of Twiggy's from Los Angeles is looking after her. She hated almost everything about LA: "You can't go for a walk and even the flowers aren't real. It's a bloody desert, that's what it is, and people have built a city there." Most of all she hated their values: "Everything is judged by youth and beauty and success and they'd stab their best friend in the back for a deal. Well that's awful. Honesty and integrity mean nothing and the kids in LA are brought up in this false world and they're all screwed up. I wouldn't let a child grow up there for anything."

Having Carly, she says, has changed her way of thinking completely. "The first thing you think about when you wake up is your child, and it's the last thing you think about when you go to sleep. Sometimes, I wake in the night and think that will it be like for her? Now I know why my mother worried all the time. I mean, I love Michael very much but he's mad about riding and he keeps talking about getting Carly on to a horse. Carly... on a horse!" Her eyes widen with horror. She refuses now to be photographed with Carly. "I grew up in Neasden, an ordinary London suburb and even though I was spoiled to death and had everything I wanted, Carly obviously lives a very different life. Oh, I'm so proud of her, I'd love to show her off, but I don't think it would be good for her."

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# THE TIMES DIARY

## Heads I win ...

David Irving, the right-wing historian who has been decrying the Hitler Diaries as fakes, is at the same time claiming a 10 per cent commission from *The Sunday Times* for, he says, having provided the information and leads. Irving contacted *The Sunday Times* in December, offering his information on condition that if the paper paid for serialization or digest rights to the Diaries he should be granted commission. He suggested 10 per cent, and claims now that in the "extensive oral communications" which followed *The Sunday Times* did not query this figure. Magnus Linklater of *The Sunday Times*, who spoke with Irving, says their last conversation some weeks ago revealed that Irving by then believed the papers he had been looking at were fakes. "Our purchase of the Hitler Diaries owes nothing to Irving and was negotiated without help from or reference to him", Linklater adds.

## Forked tongue

A *Times* man who was in Berlin in 1945 retrieved a painting signed by Adolf Hitler from the ruins of the bunker. He took it, and on his way out met an American sergeant whose prize was culprits' booty. They compared notes and the sergeant so coveted the painting that our man, judging the spoons and forks the better bet, agreed to swap. A few days later he found the cutlery had come from the Adlon Hotel.

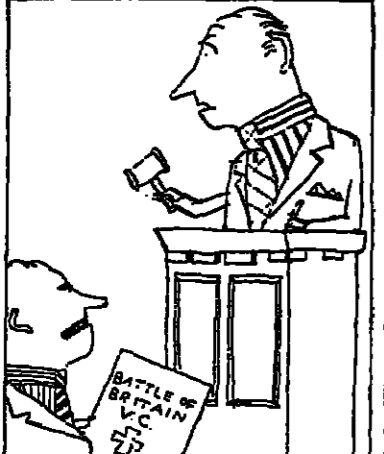
## House wine

Clement Freud has tabled an early day motion deploring the "surreptitious means by which mediocre South African wine has been sneaked into the cellars of the House" and noting "the reticence with which it is being marketed". The South African wine, he says, are being peddled like dirty goods. They do not appear on the refreshment department's wine list. When they are sold it is like someone shuffling up and saying: "Do you want my sister?"

## Rod of irony

News that the Department of Education is considering giving parents the right to veto the corporal punishment of children in state schools lends irony to a panegyric of Sir Keith Joseph in the latest *Newsline*, the official Tory paper. In an article headlined "Discipline: Teachers can Labour", Sir Keith is praised for refusing to bow to pressure against caning despite a ruthless campaign by "do-gooding" fanatics egged on by the Labour Party.

BARRY FANTONI



"The bidding is against you, sir, at twelve o'clock high"

## Worker's control

My former chief, Sir William Rees-Mogg, evidently gets along all right now with the workers at the Arts Council. He has just announced the appointment of the former chief ship steward - though they call it chairman of the staff association at the Arts Council - as music director. Rees-Mogg describes Richard Lawrence as "exceptionally able" and is "all the more pleased the appointment is made from existing council staff".

Some woolly thinking crept into the postal ballot for elections to the British Wool Marketing Board. The board is now looking for a producer whose official envelope was returned postmarked Lampeter, containing not a voting form but a £5 note and a shopping list for pet food and custard powder.

## Rowdy or Nutter?

The present row about whether Oxford United should merge with Reading could not, *New Society* argues, have happened to a better club. It was Oxford's terrace the social psychologist Peter Marsh inhabited for three years to observe the fans' behaviour. His researches classified football hooligans into two groups, Rowdies and Nutters. Now he might become a Rowdy or Nutter himself. He opposes the merger and took part in Saturday's demonstration on the pitch.

A manipulative feminist has rewritten Punch and Judy for a puppet festival to be held at Covent Garden on May 8. Di Seany's show is of course Judy and Punch. - Judy, she says, resembles an East End mum and "quite like me." Reversing the classic pattern, she triumphs over the Devil (a DHSS inspector) and the Hangman (a Thatcherite). The Sambo character becomes Bowling Ali, Muhammad's Rastafarian baby brother. PHS

# The innocent and the insidious

Both CND and the Labour Party favour Britain giving up her nuclear weapons, but a clear distinction should be made between the two groups. Most of CND's members are muddled, mistaken idealists, with no experience of international affairs and no knowledge of the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe.

They have a very understandable fear of nuclear war and the present profusion of nuclear weapons breeds in them a strong and emotional conviction that they should do something about it, even if it is the wrong thing.

The Labour Party, however, knows well what it is doing. The left wing is pro-East and wants to make Britain and the West weaker. The right wing is pro-West and knows that unilateralism is wrong. But it does not want to make itself weaker in the party by openly opposing Labour's lurch towards neutralism.

An exception should perhaps be made for Mr Michael Foot. He became a unilateralist at the age of 45, and has been one of the succeeding quarter of a century (except when he was in the Labour government). He is the same in beliefs and prejudices as he was when he used to spend his Easters ambulating between Aldermaston and Trafalgar Square, even though the world has changed.

But the CND is not cynical. It is at least as innocent as Mr Foot was in the 1950s.

## Sir Ian Gilmour warns Conservatives not to confuse CND with the real political opposition

CND's basic fallacy is to think that the West and the Soviets are very like each other and are both equally to blame for the cold war and the arms race. So CND equates Nato and the Warsaw Pact. But the Warsaw Pact is a facade. It is wholly Russian-dominated. Nato is entirely different. No country abrogates to itself the right to determine the political and social arrangements of its neighbours - Nato is an alliance of free countries.

From the fallacy that East and West are basically the same stem all the other fallacies. Mr E. P. Thompson seems aware of the danger. He has talked of "the sleepwalkers in the peace movement" and of the peril of CND placing its trust in the Soviet Union. "It is time for the peace movement to wash the sleep out of its eyes..."

Recently we have heard from a Czech dissident who writes in the *New Statesman* under the name of Vachar Racak. "In contrast with you," Mr Racak told Mr Thompson, "I am deeply convinced that

liberty is a necessary condition of peace, of true peace... Human history shows that liberty must, very often, be gained and defended by force..."

Mr Racak knows what he is talking about; he lives under a totalitarian dictatorship. Until there are human rights in Russia, the Soviet system will present a danger to the West.

Once it is conceded that the conditions in East and West are fundamentally different, CND's policy is plainly indefensible. Since there can be no genuine peace movement in the East, one-sided disarmament by Britain would produce no response, save laughter from the USSR.

At the time of the 1962 Cuba crisis, the US had a strategic nuclear supremacy of about 60 to one. Hence, in those days, Mr Foot's unilateralism was a harmless fad. Today there is nuclear parity. Unilateralism, like Mr Foot, is no longer harmless. For Labour now to seek to rupture Nato is a consensus act of sabotage. That is not true of CND, which does not know what it is doing. CND can be defeated in argument. For Labour, the only cure is the ballot box.

The author, Conservative MP for Chesham and Amersham, was Lord Privy Seal from 1979-81. This article is extracted from a speech given by Sir Ian to the York University Conservative Association last night.

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# The Ascendants' descendants on the way up

Dublin A Protestant wedding reception in the Irish Republic recently ended with a dilemma for the Roman Catholic band: should they finish with the Irish national anthem?

Out of respect for the supposed susceptibilities of the wedding guests, the band played something else. The guests knew nothing of the musicians' concern and, had they done so, would probably have insisted on the anthem being played, as it is at the end of many social functions, public and private, throughout the country.

But the incident neatly encapsulates how the Republic's small number of Protestants are often viewed as not quite fully fledged Irishmen or whose allegiance to the state is not 100 per cent. Their position in a predominantly conservative and Roman Catholic country has been highlighted in recent months by the tortuous political, religious and medical debate on the proposal to introduce a constitutional amendment banning abortion.

Being under the spotlight is not a position many lay Protestants relish. A lot of older people are reluctant to speak out publicly on any controversy which might lead to them being branded with the offensive "West Briton" label. Their leading clergy have had no such inhibitions and have entered the abortion debate with such vigour that one member of the Dail accused Dr Victor Griffin, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, of being "another Paisley".

Southern Protestants were also quick to respond to a resolution by two Northern Ireland Unionist Eud MPs accusing the Republic of "institutionalized sectarianism" against the Protestants. The Rev David Woodworth, a Church of Ireland pastor in County Cork, retorted: "I don't think they give a damn about southern Protestants except when it's convenient for their own political purposes."

Behind these public utterances, in

which the Dean has said that Protestants are fed up with the continual debate on sexual matters, is a growing confidence, especially among younger Protestants, about their place in the Republic's society.

Churchmen also believe that the number of Protestants could be rising after the sharp fall of the last 60 years. Huge losses in the First World War, the withdrawal of the British Army and Civil Service, emigration at the time of the 1921 partition, smaller families and mixed marriages - all have contributed to the savage decline, from around 300,000 in 1911 to 120,000 - 4 per cent of the population - in 1971.

In areas of Dublin, Protestant schools report a bigger intake and in one suburb the Methodists are considering building a new church to cope with their growing congregation. One Methodist minister reported similar growth in central Ireland, although the drift continues from the West.

The signs of the Protestant revival are being cautiously welcomed. It is occurring at a time of rapid social change when a large, youthful population knows little of old divisions and probably cares even less.

Traditionally, most Protestants have been middle-class with strong representation in the midlands and they have tended to live self-contained lives. But the exclusively Protestant preserves have been swept away, with Trinity College now having a majority of Roman Catholic students and the Guinness brewery long ago opening its door to the majority religion.

"Protestants today are becoming much more mainstream and there is less sense of being apart, especially among the younger people," says Dr Griffin. But he accepts that there have been problems of identity for the older generation, whose parents still remember the break with Britain.

There may be anger at the assumption that every Irishman is a



Dr Griffin: "Less sense of being apart"

Roman Catholic and that you can be a true Irishman only if you are one. David Pierepoint, a young Protestant bank official brought up to mix with Roman Catholics, said: "I'm an Irishman with complete loyalty to the state. I would like a united Ireland, although without the violence, which I abhor. I have no feelings of allegiance to Britain, although I do admire it."

Neither does this younger generation have the inhibitions of its parents in discussing with Roman Catholics the often taboo subjects of abortion, contraception and divorce. But although these matters are talked about freely in ordinary conversation, the non-Catholic churches are more wary about being seen to be in the vanguard of movements pressing for changes on such moral issues.

One reason for the recovery in Protestant numbers could be the more liberal interpretation by the Roman Catholic clergy of the mixed marriages issue. The canon law requirement that every effort be made by the Catholic partner to

bring up any child of a mixed marriage in the faith is not only probably the greatest strain in everyday relations between the two faiths but the one that brings the deepest resentment among Protestants.

Dr Griffin said: "There is a great feeling of loss in Protestant families when a son or daughter marries a Catholic. We see it as the way to annihilation and as most unfair on the couple getting married."

Yet churchmen say that many "mixed" couples, especially in urban areas where social pressures have eased, are bringing up their children as Protestants. A Dun Laoghaire minister estimates that 25 per cent of the children at his Sunday school are from mixed marriages. Dr Griffin says that more couples are trying to bring up their children in both faiths, allowing them to worship in the church of each partner. He adds: "We don't want all the children brought up as Protestants. We regard it as a private matter for a couple to solve."

Richard Ford

# How one Botha has caused P.W. a spot of local bother

comes from the liberal Progressive Federal Party, which is hoping for a striking victory in the conservative heartland of Afrikanerdom.

The fourth by-election is to the Transvaal Provincial Council, and will take place in Carletonville, a mining constituency south-west of Johannesburg, where the NP incumbent recently died. Though considered less important than the other three, it will be an interesting test of opinion among white miners, who form one of the most conservative groups in the country.

If the government loses badly to the CP, it could set Dr Treurnicht's bandwagon rolling again at a time when it had seemed to be losing momentum, and encourage more Nationalist MPs to climb aboard. Conservative Party MPs could also take it in turn to resign their seats and force the government into an almost endless series of damaging by-election campaigns. If the reverse minister whose legalization of black trade unions is widely regarded as the government's main reformist achievement, finds himself fighting for his political life in his Soutpansberg constituency in the far north of the Transvaal. Many government MPs already talk openly of "Fanie's flatter" (Afrikaans for blunder).

The other main contest is in the Waterberg constituency in the western Transvaal where Dr Treurnicht is defending the seat he held for the NP at the 1981 general election. A year later he and 17 other MPs were expelled from the party for refusing to endorse the government plan for sharing power with the mixed-blood coloured and Indian minorities, and formed the CP.

A third parliamentary by-election will be held in the Waterkloof constituency, a well-to-do suburb of Pretoria, which has been vacated by the CP's Tom Langley, who has agreed to take on Mr Botha in the Soutpansberg. Here the main opposition to the government

press has dubbed the "battle of the bergs" would put paid to the government's modest reforms. But many liberals would welcome such an outcome in the belief that it would hasten the disintegration of the Afrikaner nationalist base of the ruling party. In their view, that is the only way in which a truly reformist realignment of white political forces can be brought about.

There is no doubt that it will be close-run. If the government wins, of course, the picture will be transformed. The far right will have suffered a devastating psychological blow, and Mr Fanie Botha will be remembered as a hero rather than a blunderer. For the moment, however, the ruling party shows all the symptoms of being in an advanced state of panic.

One factor in the government's favour is the continuing failure of Dr Treurnicht to achieve a fully-fledged electoral alliance with the even more fanatical Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) of Dr Jasp Marais, which broke away from the ruling party in 1969. The HNP has, however, agreed not to field a candidate in the Soutpansberg, and advised its supporters to vote CP.

Moderate whites are worried that right-wing victories in what the local



Fanie Botha: blunderer - or will he turn out a hero?



Andries Treurnicht: his bandwagon could start rolling again

The campaign is being fought with all the special venom which only a *Broederdwaal*, a brothers' quarrel, can generate. Accusations of corruption have been hurled at Mr Fanie Botha by his erstwhile colleagues, including a potentially damaging suggestion that he improperly used his position as Minister of Water Affairs 10 years ago to get Parliament to write off a large debt incurred by an irrigation scheme in which he has an undisclosed personal interest. There have been fisticuffs at some meetings.

One of the main effects so far of the campaign has been to force the government into a posture of almost ludicrous defensiveness about its constitutional reforms, which are now being put into legal language for submission to Parliament. There have already been many delays, and the government is evidently hoping to avoid any real debate on the detail of the legislation until after the by-elections are over.

Meanwhile, senior cabinet ministers are scurrying from meeting to meeting in the Transvaal enumerating at length all the things that are not going to change as a result of the reforms. At the same time, the government is trying to persuade coloureds and Indians, as well as opinion abroad, that it has embarked on a major departure from the rigidities of classical apartheid.

The confusion in government circles has been reflected in the Prime Minister's gyrations over the issue of a referendum. In February, it was announced that he had decided against a referendum. A few weeks ago he suddenly changed his mind and said that one would be held for whites only after the constitutional changes had been passed by Parliament but before they were implemented.

This led to pressure for similar but much more hazardous tests of coloured and Indian opinion. To which Mr Botha grudgingly gave in, though without committing himself on the timing, only to declare a week ago to general derision that no referendums would be held so long as the drought lasted. Political correspondents here are now looking to the weather bureau rather than the Prime Minister's office for further guidance.

Michael Hornsby

David Watt

# Coming to terms with Andropov

The Soviet commentator Alexander Bovin is, as his name suggests, a great ox of a man, a fat man with an even fatter man inside trying to get out. He is also a personality of great intelligence, humour and charm. Some of you may have seen him on television the other night telling viewers that no serious dialogue with the Americans is possible so long as President Reagan remains in office. Others may have read him in last Sunday's *Observer* urging moderation in East-West relations. It is worth considering what he had to say not just because his trip to London last week to attend the Anglo-Soviet Round Table at Chatham House comes at a highly charged moment, but because he is said to be very close to Yuri Andropov.

Bovin's argument, as he explained it to me, runs as follows. All revolutionaries - English, French, American, Russian - begin with ideology, but time and the demands of external events dilute this element until eventually the overwhelming ingredients are pragmatism and national interest. Soviet Russia, since the death of Lenin, has proceeded predictably along this path and now stands at a place where ideology is still important, certainly, but where pragmatism is already the dominant flavour.

For Bovin, the paradox and puzzle is that the United States, which had its revolution more than 200 years ago and has duly progressed according to plan, has suddenly under President Reagan turned in the opposite direction and is now, apparently, determined to lead an ideological crusade against communism and the "empire of evil" that is the Soviet Union. This is depressing and dangerous, says Bovin. National interest is negotiable but Holy War precludes compromise and leads to the final horrifying clash between good and evil at Armageddon.

This is nice stuff, and so far as Reaganism is concerned, expresses a puzzlement that spreads far beyond the Soviet Union. The problem, as always with Soviet controversy, is to know how much of it is sincere, disguised as sincerity and how much is sincerity creeping out from behind a safe mask of tactics.

On the face of it, of course, the whole thesis is a shameless piece of effrontery. There is nothing on earth more relentlessly ideological than a Soviet commentator when he wishes to make his points in that form. Who has been talking about (and indeed conducting) the death struggle between capitalism and Marxism-Leninism all these years?

More than that, ideology is the air that Soviet leaders breathe, the water they swim in and in the end the justification of their existence.

The fifteenth-century papacy, worldly, corrupt and aggressive as it was, never divorced itself entirely from ecclesiastical and doctrinal considerations; similarly Soviet foreign policy, however much nationalism and self-interest may appear to dictate its moves, is under the ultimate necessity of clothing these imperatives in doctrinaire dress - a process always present and always significant. So much is this the case that we may wonder why Bovin has not been arraigned for heresy and burned at the stake in a suitably cinquecento style for daring to speak in such secular terms. To this question the cynic will give three answers.

First, he is close to Mr Andropov and therefore has a licence to say pretty well anything he pleases (so long as Andropov himself survives). Second, so able a controversialist

would undoubtedly have a fireplace of casuistry ready in case he is halted before the Inquisition. If theology is to one's taste, there are many entrancing hours to be spent speculating what this defence might be. But I suppose that its first line would be that the eventual triumph of communism is so inevitable that "ideology" is in a sense irrelevant. Thus, when the late lamented Comrade Krushchv remarked to the capitalists, "We will bury you", he was not announcing an ideological intention but merely stating an historical inevitability.

The third reason for Bovin's insouciance might be said to be that the Russians have excellent tactical reasons for talking to us in this way at this particular moment. The French are having an anti-Soviet heatstroke; the West Germans are suspected in Washington of "neutrality". The British are not only worried - politically, but definitely and at all levels - about the Reagan administration, they also still have some influence in Washington and are in a mood to try and exert it.

How, then, if we were in the Kremlin, should we handle the British? Well, we adopt our most civilized tone. We appeal to their sense of history and moderation. We speak more in sorrow than in anger about this brass, uncouth, un-British fello in the White House whom more mature, experienced nations have to try to restrain for the good of humanity. In short we butter them up, and who better qualified to lay it on than Comrade Bovin?

At the same time it is important that we shouldn't outsmart ourselves. It is entirely consistent with probability and with their self-interest that the Russians should believe (a) that the arms race is too expensive and that some compromise is therefore desirable at Geneva; (b) that the Reagan administration does not really propose to compromise except on terms of overwhelming superiority, and (c) that Reagan is actively determined to destroy them and their system and to risk a nuclear war in the process.

Again, there is nothing inherently impossible in Bovin's particular gloss on all this or in the supposition that Mr Andropov has about as much practical concern with ideology as Pope Alexander VI - a potentate underpinned by an absolutist philosophy but one with whom it was possible to do business on a limited basis and even, occasionally, to dine, provided you took suitable precautions.

Yet, at the end of the day, it scarcely matters whether the Russians are sincere and truthful in this account of their present feelings or whether it is all tactics. We have to answer the questions for ourselves. Lord Carrington supplied an authoritative set of British answers in his Alistair Buchan Memorial Lecture last week, saying in effect that a Geneva deal on compromise terms is in our interest; that the Soviet system will collapse in the end of its own accord without dangerous assistance from us; and that dogma and "megaphone diplomacy" are out of place in our deals with the East.

He is quite right. What is most required at the moment is calmness, firm self-confidence and flexibility. And the fact that for the time being the Soviet leaders, ably represented by Mr Bovin, would probably agree for a variety of reasons, good and bad, with the general Carrington position while Mr Reagan would probably not, does not necessarily invalidate it.

Philip Howard

# Cry wolf and unleash an age-old fear

Never trust a man with pale grey eyes, or one whose eyebrows meet in the middle. Be suspicious of him, a bushy grey hair growing out of his ears. If he takes his clothes off and circum-miculates around them, run for your life; for you may be sure that he is a werewolf, a man-wolf, probably derived from the Old English *wer*, cognate with the Latin *vir*, a man. There are no female werewolves. Vampires, yes; she-werewolves, no.

It is reasonable what a strong hold the superstition about the man who can turn into a wolf, the *loup-garou* of France, has upon our imagination. The last wolf was extirpated in England in the reign of Henry VII, though wolves survived in Scotland until well into the eighteenth century. The wolf is extinct in the New World, except in Alaska. And yet the comic strips, the trash thrillers and the video shops still do brisk business with tales like *I Was a Teenage Werewolf*. To some extent, the maniac hitch-hiker has replaced the werewolf as a popular horror from the wild outside who intrudes into our civilized world.

The other day I was lucky enough to meet Richard Buxton of Bristol University, who is doing research into the myth of the werewolf. You find them *passim* in the classical literature, though not as *passim* as in medieval literature. The wolf is a potent symbol of cruelty and wildness; which is odd, really, since wolf's main enemy, man, is far more cruel and wild. Left to itself, the wolf preys on large ungulates, rabbits, mice and other vermin; but not man. When food is scarce, it turns to domestic animals; hence the warfare with man, who has been raising stock since neolithic times.

From the earliest literature the wolf was a symbol of the outsider, the cruel predator. Remember Delon, the incompetent Trojan night spy, who signally wore a cloak of a grey wolf's skin (old English proverb: "The wolf must die

in his own skin"). The Eumenides, your friendly local Furies, said that their disposition was like a raw minded wolf, "it cannot be appeased".

In the sources the wolf is also a symbol of cooperation. Dogs all look different. Wolves look alike, and share their kill; so they are perceived as cooperative. There is an agreeable antique anecdote of a man running away from a pack of wolves and taking refuge in the Nile. But the wolves held on to each other's tail and so reached far enough into the river to get their man.

Then, very early, you get your werewolves. In the Greek myth of the flood, Zeus finally lost his patience with the race of man when Lysaon, the King of Arcadia, served him a stew of human flesh for dinner. So he turned Lysaon into a werewolf. "He keeps the same grey hair, the same fierce face, the same gleaming eyes, the same picture of beastly savagery." Pliny tells the story that one of the family of Antaeus was chosen annually by lot, to be transformed into a wolf, in which shape he continued for nine years. There are others. And the idea of wolf eating man persists, in extreme old age. Milo of Croton, an heavyweight athlete, got so handsome he was unable to tear apart. The wolves came and ate him, demonstrating that their bite was worse than his bark.

Myths are not just fairy stories. They are powerful patterns for thinking about things. We evidently still need the werewolf as the pervasive and potent image of the marginal outsider who is different, and therefore dangerous. But, as the old Canadian trapper said: "Any man who says he has been eaten by a wolf is a liar." I always thought that "Black as halfway down a wolf's throat" was Damon Runyon's original. Not so, I see that *Esquire*, *como boca de lobo*, dark as a wolf's mouth, is at least 300 years old in Spain.

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DOWN MEXICO WAY

President Reagan's dilemma in Central America is a European dilemma too, though for different reasons. So it is important for European governments to show understanding of the intensity of feeling which the issue excites within the American administration, even though they might have different opinions about how President Reagan should seek to resolve his dilemma.

It is in his address to the joint session of both Houses of Congress on Wednesday he recognized that, even within the USA, many people find it hard to believe that what happens in Central America has any significant bearing on American strategy. The fact that he sought the address was itself an eloquent indication of the difficulty he has had in persuading American congressional opinion, and public opinion at large, to recognize this truth.

Reagan's address this week. The President expressed the hope for a bipartisan policy. He recalled that President Carter had initially helped the Nicaraguan revolutionary government before it betrayed his trust. He emphasized that three-quarters of American help to El Salvador is economic, and that there was no question of American troops entering the region.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ending television licence fee

From Mr David Elstein Sir, The implications of cable television for the BBC are far less threatening than Howard Davies (feature, April 26) suggests. The question is: how will the BBC respond?

CND and the duties of the cloth

From Mr E. E. Y. Hayles Sir, The moderation of your leading article, "Campaigner of the cloth" (April 27) on the matter of Mgr Bruce Kent's position in CND will, I am sure, be welcome to many Catholics.

Telephone users unprotected

From Mr P. B. Matthews Sir, Bernard Levin (April 20) would like British Telecom to honour the "contract" between them and himself in respect of telephone services.

NO EASY EXIT

Nobody is left much the wiser by Mr Justice Woolf's response to the Attorney General's request for a High Court ruling that it is a crime to distribute the Voluntary Euthanasia Society's "Guide to Self-Deliverance".

a hesitant reader to choose suicide and indeed its writers clearly expect it to do so. On the face of it, that would seem to fall under the 1961 Act's prohibition of any act that "aids, abets, counsels or procures the suicide of another".

progressive illness - to end one's life. There are danger in this change of attitudes, which the publication of the "Guide" must tend to reinforce. Useful inhibitions against impulsive suicide are likely to be eroded, and (perhaps a greater matter of concern) some disabled or elderly people anxious not to be a burden may be put under greater psychological pressure to carry the idea of self-effacement too far.

Trial in South Africa

From Miss Mercy Edgedale Sir, You have reported (April 20) Mr Cedric Mayson's statements regarding the likely dangers befalling the Rev Beyers Naudé should he have been a witness at Mr Mayson's trial in South Africa.

Duke and the bomb

From Lord Caldecote Sir, I was disappointed to see that in your issue this morning (April 27) you incorrectly reported on an address given yesterday by his Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, in which he referred to the value and the danger of nuclear weapons.

Fading in the hills

From Mr D. B. Walters Sir, Dr M. Hughes (April 8) fears that poor examination results by some 15-year-olds in Wales stem from the misguided devotion of resources to the preservation of Welsh and supports this view from Tim Jones's report on March 25, which quoted briefly from the surveys of the Assessment of Performance Unit (APU).

Hard-boiled

From Mr J. P. Wilton Sir, I was intrigued to read in today's Nature notes (April 25) that when hen lays six minute eggs. Presumably the tiny creature is trying to ingratiate itself, but it should be aware that four minutes is long enough for any egg, let alone a red-spotted one.

STUNG BELOW THE WATERLINE

The storm that has broken out over Soviet submarines in Swedish waters may well prove to be a turning-point in relations between the two countries, and to be an episode of wider European significance. For years Sweden has been noted as the most outspoken of European neutrals. Often in the past this quality has been irritating to Nato countries, and especially to the United States.

Moscow, but that has done nothing to undermine the authority of a commission chaired by so eminent a figure as Mr Sven Andersson, the former defence and foreign minister. There will be no disposition in future, as there has sometimes been, for Swedes to suspect that their navy sights Soviet submarines at convenient moments when defence expenditure is under review.

Swedish consciousness. More over, fear mingles with indignation over the submarine disclosures and there is no willingness to take unnecessary risks, either with Swedish or indeed with Finnish security which many Swedes believe would be put in jeopardy if Sweden were to give up its neutrality.

War-torn Iraq

From the Ambassador of Iraq Sir, The Times has published on April 14 an article by Helga Graham about which we wish to clarify certain points.

Uniform opportunities

From Mr A. R. Ritchie Sir, Recent correspondents (April 20) on the suggestion that unemployed young people should be given the opportunity of a year's military service appear to believe that training in the use of arms will encourage them to turn into armed criminals in future years.

Hitler diaries

From Mr O. Zemetica Sir, Should Hitler's diaries be published or should they, as the Chief Rabbi so forcefully argues (April 26), be ignored, irrespective of whether or not their authenticity is substantiated?

War-torn Iraq

From the Ambassador of Iraq Sir, The Times has published on April 14 an article by Helga Graham about which we wish to clarify certain points.



THE ARTS

Cinema

Seriousness woven into comedy

Tootsie (PG) Odeon Leicester Square

A Shocking Accident (PG) Odeon Leicester Square

Ascendancy (15) Academy

Barbarosa (PG) Screen on the Green

Ill Fares the Land ICA

I was a better man with you as a woman than I ever was with a woman as a man. Dustin Hoffman tells Jessica Lange in the final minutes of Tootsie after divesting himself of wig, dress, make-up, dazzling smile and southern accent. The convoluted sentence, biblically delivered across a Manhattan pavement, triumphantly sums up the film's comic games with sexual identities, unparalleled in mainstream Hollywood since Some Like It Hot. It also spotlights the serious thoughts about human behaviour woven into the comedy - a mixture that has helped Tootsie become the biggest American box-office success ever produced by Columbia. Sydney Pollack's film impresses with its acuity and assurance even during the credit sequence. As Hoffman's embattled New York actor runs the gamut of doomed auditions, we sit back comfortable in the knowledge that performers, director and scriptwriters (Lairy Gelbart and Murray Schisgal) know their business. All, indeed, have considerable experience of show business vicissitudes: Pollack himself began as an actor before turning to direction, and contributes a sharp, effective cameo as Hoffman's bewildered agent. The comedy remains bright-

eyed as financial pressure transforms Hoffman's Michael Dorsey into "Dorothy Michaels" - a southern lady of poise and resilience who leads the part of a hospital administrator in a television serial called Southwest General. Anyone with experience of soap opera's crazy world will spot the awful truth behind the film's lampoon: the weathered matinee idol with neither talent nor memory, the actor who finds his character killed off when he requests a raise; the dialogue that sounds "like dialogue from a Czech movie". Tootsie recreates the panic and paraphernalia of American television in a way My Favourite Year never achieved.

But the film's power principally derives from the extraordinary "Dorothy Michaels". From one standpoint, she is a blatantly theatrical creation, invented to fill a specific soap-opera role. Yet when Jessica Lange sadly murmurs "I miss Dorothy" in the closing minutes we know exactly what she means. Hoffman's astonishing performance has given Dorothy real feminine warmth and individuality. The script acknowledges this, too, by never resorting to sniggers: obvious jokes about sharing a female bed or warding off men's advances are introduced only to be lightly brushed aside. This discretion ultimately leads Tootsie into trouble: some scenes ramble without a climax, making the 116 minutes perhaps 16 minutes too long. The script also ungenerously shoves Teri Carr's character - Dorsey's absurdly insecure girlfriend - into a tight, unprofitable corner. But the bulk of the film is thoroughly entertaining.

So indeed is the British film accompanying Tootsie on national release in many cinemas: A Shocking Accident, winner of this year's Oscar for the best live-action short. Recommending a short film may seem like recommending scarlet fever - so paltry have "full supporting programmes" become over the years. But James Scott's 25-minute version of a Graham Greene story is worlds removed from the documentaries on pearl fishing or Nato submarines occasionally encountered by unruly spectators. The shocking accident happens to the young hero's father: he is killed by an overweight pig crashing



Rapt commitment in a hair-shirt role: Julie Covington in Ascendancy

through a Naples balcony. School-mates consequently taunt the son with grunts; an aunt casually spreads the story during afternoon tea while her nephew cringes with embarrassment. Compared to Scott's previous work - the teasing feature Adult Fun, piercing documentaries on art, politics and society - A Shocking Accident is a work of modest ambition. But, with its sly humour, crisp structure and pointed visualization of a literary text, one can feel the same playful intelligence at work.

A clear, shaping intelligence similarly governs Edward Bennett's Ascendancy, made for the British Film Institute Production Board and winner of the Berlin Festival's Golden Bear award. However, it is hard to write about this psychological study of Irish disorders in 1920 without dipping into the critic's deadliest adjectives: worthy, commendable, competent. Like Scott, Bennett has experience in provocative documentaries (Hogarth, Four Questions About Art), and this first step towards conventional narrative procedures shows an effective use of low-budget resources. The scattered locations (none of them in Ireland) afford memorable images: servants frozen in Remembrance Day silence in the grand mansion of James Wintour, a Belfast shipyard owner; the congregation of a Catholic church huddled

in sanctuary during a violent night. Yet the striking moments and fascinating background of social decay fail to coalesce into compulsive viewing.

The problem chiefly stems from the depiction of the heroine, Wintour's banished daughter, whose right arm hangs in psychomotoric paralysis since her beloved brother died in the Great War. Julie Covington, a specialist in hair-shirt roles, plays with her usual rapt commitment, but the character's obsessions never become the audience's, and the script's scheme of political-psychological parallels remains forever in embryo. The film is compact, decently made, eloquently photographed by Clive Tickner; greater enthusiasm, unfortunately, is impossible.

The comparative failure of Barbarosa is equally regrettable, for this is an example of that endangered species, the Western; yet the pleasure of seeing horses charging across Texas must be balanced against the pain of experiencing cinematic muddle. The Australian director Fred Schepisi, working for the first time in America, never finds an appropriate style to link the script's elements. Sometimes Barbarosa celebrates the Western myth of the unstoppable hero (Barbarosa himself, played by the country-and-western singer Willie

Nelson). Sometimes the film concentrates on a tale of romping robbers and multi-racial family feuds; sometimes it simply soaks up the landscapes, photographed in Panavision by Ian Baker - Schepisi's cameraman on The Devil's Playground (1976) and The Chan of Hummie Blacksmith (1978). But the strands remain unco-ordinated, and erratic post-synchronization only adds to the film's disorientation. As in Honey-suckle Rose, Nelson displays a pleasant, mischievous screen presence, though he lacks the epic charisma his part demands; fans should also note that he never sings anything.

The ICA is going Scottish during May, presenting, amongst other items, the Bill Douglas trilogy and Bill Forsyth's That Sinking Feeling. The chief exhibit is Ill Fares the Land (May 4-8), a shapeless account of the last months on St Kilda, the far-flung islands off Scotland's west coast, evacuated in 1930. St Kilda is now an American military base, which explains why the film was mostly shot elsewhere. The writer-director, Bill Bryden, of National Theatre fame, recreates the dying world with such loving care that he drags the film down to the slow crawl of the islanders' hymn-singing. One is moved, but not very much.

Geoff Brown

Concerts

BBCSO/Sanderling Alfred Brendel Festival Hall/Radio 3 Queen Elizabeth Hall

Almost as a curtain-raiser to The Gambler at the Coliseum, the Royal Philharmonic Society on Wednesday presented another Prokofiev work from that same turbulent period around the First World War, his Second Piano Concerto. Not long ago this was almost as neglected as his Dostoevsky opera, pianists and audiences preferring the gladsome bravura of the Third Concerto or the youthful grand romanticism of the First. But the more sinister contents of the spiritless end of the affair ("I don't think we don't love each other") to the rapturous opening declarations at the end.

Irving Wardle

Since October last year Alfred Brendel has been on a pilgrim's progress. Geographically it has taken him through Switzerland, Germany, France, Holland and England; musically it has led him through the labyrinthine emotional complexities of Beethoven's piano sonatas, a medium with which Brendel seems uniquely in tune. His cycle of seven concertos has quite simply been one of the most remarkable and illuminating events to have hit the London platforms for a long while, and his concluding recital on Wednesday was in every sense its alpha and omega.

As in the previous concerts of the series, Wednesday's was marked by careful, imaginative and stimulating programming. The four sonatas were representative not only of the phases of Beethoven's creative life but also of Brendel's sharply defined pianistic refinement. One of Beethoven's earliest sonatas, the fresh, cheery A major, Op 2 No 2, was balanced by the very last, the tense Op 111; at the centre were two of the great "middle period" sonatas, the D major, Op 28, and "Das Lebewohl", Op 81a.

Stylistically, then, there was a logical progression, which in Brendel's sharply defined playing was charted to graphic and revealing effect. In each sonata he played not only with individuality but also with a sense of rightness which left one all but speechless, so naturally did he apply his incomparable techniques to the demands of the music.

It goes without saying that he can call on a kaleidoscopic range of piano tone and produce playing which constantly impresses through its clarity and depth of feeling. But, more than that, each phrase of the music was vested with structural and emotional significance. Nothing was deemed superfluous or unimportant; each sonata was perfectly crafted, perfectly balanced, perfectly characterized.

Moreover, almost at every turn Brendel offered some new insight into a bar, a phrase, a note, even a pause. In the D major Sonata, Op 28, for example, those little tentative thematic fragments uttered just before the start of the recapitulation in the first movement were given with a sense of questioning and doubting which sounded entirely original yet was perfectly placed in context.

And in the last movement of Op 111 the sudden drawing back from the forceful third variation to the pianissimo of the fourth lent the music a harrowing impact, something reinforced by Brendel's commanding performance of the final pages of the sonata - serene, profound and intensely moving. Brendel sees it as a "moral duty to make music in as visionary, moving, mysterious, thoughtful, amusing, graceful a manner as we are able to". In this cycle his duty was fulfilled with consummate artistry.

Paul Griffiths Geoffrey Norris

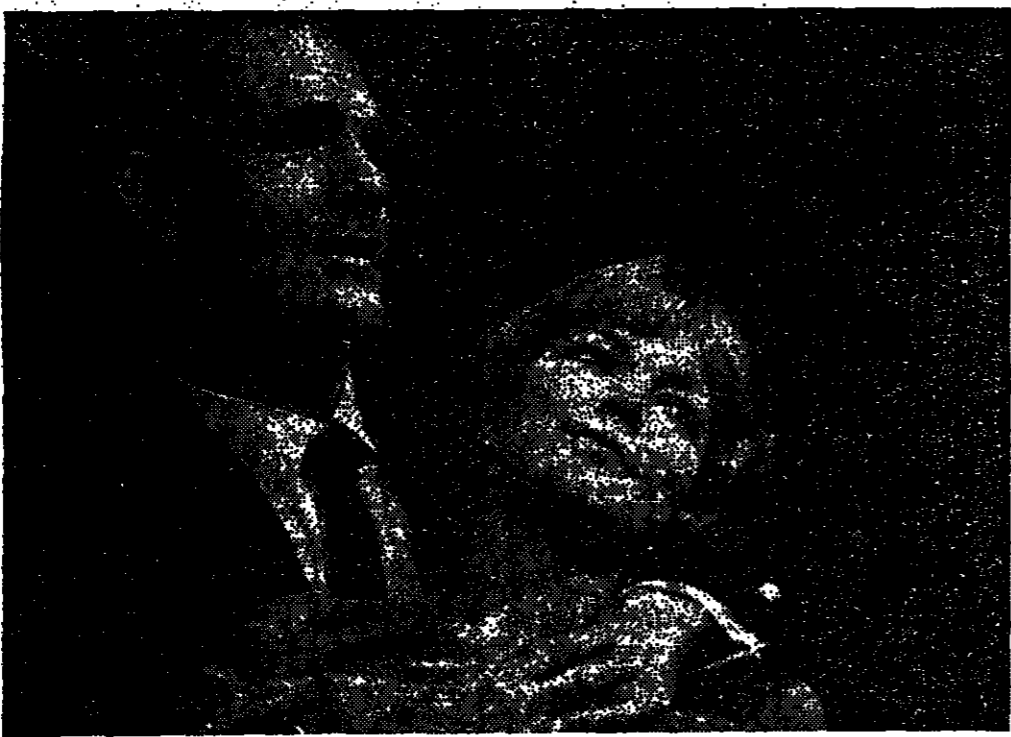
Theatre Banality banished

Betrayal Greenwich

Greenwich may seem to be treading on Peter Hall's toes with this premature revival of Harold Pinter's play, but Gary Raymond's production is a very different affair from the original National Theatre version. And, as one of those left cold by that occasion, I am glad to take this belated chance of acknowledging a beautiful piece of work.

Thanks to the scale and glossy performance style of the Lyttelton production, I quit the theatre mainly impressed by Pinter's ingenuity in telling a banal story backwards. At Greenwich, the story comes into close-up and sheds any trace of banality.

The size of the building has something to do with this; but so has the introduction of pop songs for every nostalgically receding date (each song, a learned colleague informs me, belonging to the year in question), the use of lighting (Brian Harris) to convey a sense of mortal transience and, most



Telegraphing the unspoken: Gary Raymond, Suzan Farmer

of all, the performances of Mr Raymond and his two partners, Suzan Farmer and Edward Hardwicke.

All my memory preserved of the dialogue was of exchanges of small talk between an affluently anonymous trio, whose lives consist of restaurant lunches, book club, family routine and adultery in the afternoon. The small talk is there all right, but only as a mask behind which each character is observing the others and waiting for his own advantage. Even when conversation is flowing tranquilly

along, the staging contrives to telegraph the unspoken.

Witness Miss Farmer's eyes, invisible to her husband, as he prowls round the bedroom speculating on why Jerry should have written to her in Venice. "What do you think of Jerry as a letter writer?" Mr Hardwicke spits out. And when she cuts his game short and unambiguously confesses the relationship, her line has a same kind of impact as a climax in Racine.

Details of the multiple betrayal are brilliantly clarified

Opera

Massenet obviously realized, and as Rhoda Levine directing acknowledges, it is Charlotte who initially gripped Goethe's imagination; it is Charlotte whose presence advertises the opera as a Scottish Opera's poster; and, with Cynthia Buchan magnificent in the role, it is Charlotte who dominates this production.

Miss Buchan's fluent and perceptive command of the verbal and musical language (the production is, for better or for worse, in French), her ability to inflect and ease in and out of the melodic line, are unmatched by anyone else on stage. Through the strong core of her voice and personality it is the vehicle for a boldly individual, highly intelligent characterization, carefully detailed and powerfully developed.

The dignity and conviction of her Act I declaration that "Albert m'aime - et je suis sa femme" is the touchstone for her tour de force in the central third act. Vocally and physically containing her suppressed emotion until it spills out in her unaccompanied cry of agony and in the rage within her prayer to God; Miss Buchan skilfully paces the revelation of Charlotte's suffering. And when she silently mouths with Werther the words of Ossian she seems to underline the cruel incompatibility of her love of a person and his love of love alone.

by the sense of what is at stake emotionally. After the Venice scene, Mr Hardwicke tells the lover that the high spot of the trip was a morning he spent alone; an innocent remark brimming with revenge and pain once you consider it. The accumulation of these poisonous ironies is one benefit of the reverse narrative; another is the mordant itinerancy from the spiritless end of the affair ("I don't think we don't love each other") to the rapturous opening declarations at the end.

Hilary Finch

For Dennis O'Neill emphasizes the emotional isolation of a Werther who is no more than half in love with essential death. His placidity verges on paralysis; recalling Goethe's own words about embitterment through want of action, he is anything underplays the ardour for life which is surely there too in Massenet's music. But, for all his continually downcast eyes and occasionally swallowed words, it is a compelling performance, well thought through and musically sung.

Rhoda Levine's unobtrusive production lets the changing seasons speak for themselves: like the functional, inoffensive sets of John Conklyn with whom she has often worked in the United States she makes no points but gives plenty of space for individual interpretation and movement (particularly imaginative with the children). Alan Watt is a competent and credible Albert, Deborah Rees a lightweight, perfectly agreeable Sophie, while Brian Barnattynne-Scott as Johann and William McCune as Le Balliv deserve more than a word of praise. Next to Miss Buchan the star of the evening should perhaps be Roderick Brydon, tonally lit one with Massenet's music, substantiating all that is going on on stage; and drawing dramatic playing, like and supplé with inner detail, from the Scottish Opera Orchestra.

Hilary Finch

Television

Age of consent

The Mutiny at Invergordon (BBC last night) is a story that can always stand a re-telling: the shock-horror story of sailors refusing to do what they were told is a much-examined skeleton in our national cupboard. Appropriately, it was the first in the series Britain in the Thirties. The trouble was that there were so many participants to field that the material and potential were too much for the time. Nonetheless, it was a gripping piece of television.

The mutiny arose over pay. Ramsay MacDonald's National Government was vainly trying to keep the gold standard. It cut unemployment benefit by 10 per cent and welcomed the Admiralty's extraordinary offer to pay all men on pre-1925 scales, which meant that many would get a 25 per cent cut. Their families already suffered considerable hardship, which the Royal Naval Benevolent Fund could not adequately relieve. The cut, which the men of the Atlantic Fleet heard of through a radio broadcast, was the last straw.

After meetings ashore, the mutiny occurred on September 15, 1931. The anchorage at Invergordon echoed all day to the cheers of men on the fo'c'sles of their ships - the method by which they kept up spirits and assured themselves of solidarity.

The programme included recollections from ratings and officers. One of the latter recalled how a beer mug had been thrown at him, an action confirmed by former ratings but evidently untypical. Another former officer reflected on Admiral Tomkinson, standing in for the C-in-C who was ill in Plymouth - "a quiet unpleasant little man" who "was quite unfit to take command of anything".

The Admiralty reacted slowly; the Government thought it a Red plot - it being the fashion to attribute to Reds a cunning almost beyond human capacity. The ships were recalled to their home ports with a promise of inquiries and no victimization. The inquiries were ineffectual; the promise was broken. Len Wincott, one of the leaders who appeared, and 120 others were discharged with 13s tanner and a railway warrant. For many others it meant no further promotion. Wincott later joined the Communist Party and went to live in Russia.

The lesson drawn, the programme concluded, was that a twentieth-century navy could only be run with the consent of the men below decks. Something there, I suppose, except that it took a war to drive it home.

Dennis Hackett

Jazz

Follow that . . .

Miles Davis Odeon, Hammersmith

I was wrong when I swore not to see Miles Davis again. That was back in the mid-Seventies when he was thrashing around on a jazz/rock sea like a man on a raft, and I did not want to return to see jazz's greatest modern stylist drown trying to keep up with fashion.

Duty took me back to Hammersmith on Wednesday and there he was, still afloat on the jazz/rock/whatever gulf stream, but now like a man winning the America's Cup, not clinging to wreckage. The difference was spectacular. His trumpet playing had lost all hesitation and become more assured, more fluent, than I have ever heard it. He did things in one breath that might have taken three before - a favourite was playing a choice mid-register phrase, swooping up to a thrilling high note and then spiralling down to a wispy echo of the first phrase, in one long line. Playing fast or high, he never missed a trick; at slow tempo he sounded like the old Davis but better.

This new confidence has led to two amazing revolutions. One is that instead of ignoring the rest of the group he often supports other soloists by simultaneously playing trumpet with the left hand and stabbing

keyboard chords with the right, like some one-man big band. The other is that he has broken a 30-year oath to ignore his public and now waves back flirts with their applause and even comes downstage to tease the photographers. At this rate he will be talking to us by 1985.

His crew moved smoothly to his commands. The saxophonist Bill Evans is lightweight and nimble, Tom Barney and Al Foster make a perfect bass/drums engine team, slipping from thudding rock to the subtlest jazz backing, while Mino Cinelu, off to one side in his Latin American engineering shop, fills in any unnoticed gaps. Up in the rigging, Mike Stern's blues-based guitar is superb stuff, with one solo near the end so full of passion, light and shade it almost stole the show, though John Scofield's jazzier playing, even if fluent, is as monochrome as almost all jazz guitar has been since they first plugged it into the main. Frowning everywhere was the captain, liberated from a stand-mike by some miracle trumpet attachment so that he could walk, play and keep an eye on the ship all at the same time. Miles Davis is back on the high seas and in front of the fleet again. I am not sure if he knows his final destination, but I would be a fool not to follow him this time.

Miles Kington

COLLECTORS GUIDE MAY ISSUE ON SALE NOW. Oudry and the Beauvais tapestry manufacture. The origins of lead glass. Country chairs and their makers. Ship portrait paintings. Special offer: London weekend for the June Antiques Fairs.

"A MASTERPIECE" In the Obivier Tonight 7.15. Tomorrow 2.00 & 7.15, Mon 7.15. Then May 10 (Bargain Night) 11.12.19. 20 at 7.15, 21 at 2.00 & 7.15. "A triumphant production by Michael Bogdanov... a blood-stained melodrama of splendid power!" LORENZACCIO by de Musset translated and adapted by John Fowles. STANDEY from 10am on day - any unsold seats £4.50. NT NATIONAL THEATRE NT. Box Office: 01 923 2252. Credit Cards: 01 525 5333.

London Festival Ballet 24 May - 25 June 1983. London Coliseum.

Battle of Algiers. Final Week. Gate Bloomsbury. 637-9402 637-1177.

THE ROARING GIRL. An enjoyable revival and a thoroughly fascinating heroine... dashingly played by Helen Mirren. BARBICAN THEATRE.

BELLS SCOTCH WHISKY BELLS

The barricades are going up at Debenhams, the high street department store chain...

Debenhams the target

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25. Dealings end, May 6. Contango Day, May 9. Settlement Day, May 16.

last month. It is estimated to own nearer 5 million shares now or around 4 per cent of the equity...

The main talking point in the market with the FT index again crossing the important 700 mark...

Leading equities experienced a good day's trading with Beecham closing unchanged at 41 1/2...

will continue to be the most buoyant and fastest growing product in the drink sector over the next year...

striking price of 350p and soon rose to 376p. But persistent profit taking soon cut this lead to only 8p by the close of 356p.

These investors who got cold feet in Bellini's case last week will be kicking themselves today following yesterday's announcement...

On the new issues front, Mr Paul Hamlyn's Octopus Publishing made a disappointing start. Offered by way of a minimum tender price of 275p...

Table with columns: 1982/83 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Yield, Dividend, P/E.

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THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table showing Sterling exchange rates for various locations like New York, London, etc.

Money Market Rates

Table showing Money Market Rates for various currencies and terms.

Other Markets

Table showing Other Markets including Australia, Bahrain, Finland, etc.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table showing Dollar Spot Rates for various countries like Canada, Netherlands, etc.

Euro-Deposits

Table showing Euro-Deposits for various currencies and terms.

Gold

Table showing Gold prices and related market information.

PROPERTY

Table showing Property listings and prices.

RUBBER

Table showing Rubber market prices.

TEA

Table showing Tea market prices.





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Investment and Finance City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 698.8 down 2.2 FT Gilt: 81.60 unchanged FT All Share: 439.34 down 2.17

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5595 down 65pts Index 84.2 unchanged DM 3.8450

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Base rates 10 3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2

PRICE CHANGES

Davies & Newman 181p up 31p Bodycote 59p up 6p Websters 75p up 7p

TODAY

Interims: None announced Final: Clayton, Son and Co (Hlgs), Cole Grp, Hopkinsons

Hoover trading profits improve

Hoover, the domestic appliance group, continued to improve its trading performance in the first quarter of the year, even though it was still in the red at the pretax level.

DEALINGS BAN

Coated, the Scottish thread manufacturer, was banned by the High Court in London yesterday from dealings in the shares or assets of its wholly-owned English subsidiary, Davidson MacGregor.

INCOME INCREASE

Triocent, the independent British oil company, yesterday reported first quarter net income of £5.3m, £1.0m up on last year's figure.

BANK EXPANSION

The Royal Bank of Scotland has had its application to open a Singapore branch approved by the country's monetary authority.

Wall Street mixed in moderate trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stocks were pulling back and turned mixed in moderate trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was down a fraction after being ahead more than four points earlier.

Advancing issues led declines by 7-to-6. Honeywell way up 2 1/2 at 107 1/2. International Business Machines up 1/4 at 110 1/2.

Bank issues indexed long tap

The Bank of England took the gilt market by surprise with its issue of a new long tap yesterday. It is a new form of government security, as it is an index-linked Treasury convertible partly paid and to be issued by tender.

ICI profits surge surprises market

ICI surprised the stock market at midday by announcing a £128m pretax profit figure for the first quarter of 1983. That is well over twice the £62m it made in the first quarter last year and £18m ahead of the most optimistic estimates.

36,000 in steel protest

American steelworkers launched a two-pronged drive yesterday to block a proposed joint venture by British Steel and US Steel Corporation.

Linford may bid for Key Markets

Linford Holdings, which is in the middle of a bitterly-fought takeover battle for Fitch Lovell, is considering a number of alternatives, including bidding for the Key Markets chain within Fitch Lovell.

New minister needed for EEC reforms, says Goldsmith

Call for European free trade

The Prime Minister should appoint a Cabinet minister without portfolio to spearhead a "coordinated reforming crusade within the EEC", the Institute of Directors urged yesterday.

Smith says study challenges Lonrho argument

Pension funds opposed to Harrods demerger, claims Fraser chairman

An independent report commissioned by the National Association of Pension Funds on the battle between Lonrho and the main House of Fraser board over whether Harrods should be demerged from the rest of the department stores group, "endorses our view and diminishes Lonrho's argument," Professor Roland Smith, Fraser's chairman, claimed yesterday.

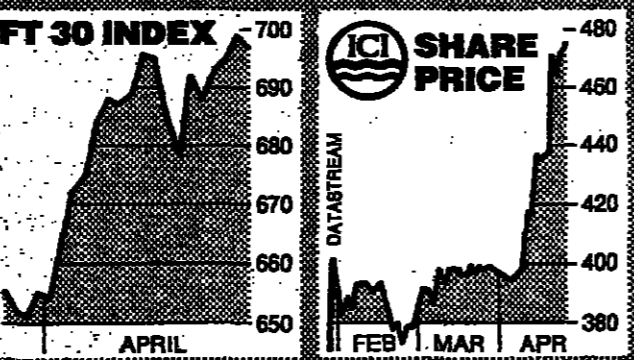
The report, prepared by auditors Coopers & Lybrand, was commissioned to help pension funds with a shareholder view on the war of words being fought through circulars from Lonrho and the main board on the demerger issue.

Harrods, the London department store, reported that "We think that risks will arise from the demerger. Those risks will ultimately be passed through to shareholders who will have to judge whether their insurance is justified."



Holding on to Harrods: Professor Smith cites "demerger risks" in pension funds report

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Heavy fund investment abroad

Pension fund managers are continuing to invest overseas with 27 per cent of total cashflow pumped into foreign markets during 1982, according to the latest pension survey from stockbrokers, Wood Mackenzie.

Call to wind up six Hunt companies

Up to 2,000 private investigators may be caught up in the problems of Exchange Securities and Commodities, the Warwick-based investment management group founded by Mr Keith Hunt.

Improved overall profit in difficult markets

The results reflect the intensified competition experienced by the insurance industry in the territories in which the Group operates. In spite of the impact of the underwriting results on cash flows, there was a very satisfactory increase in investment income.

United Kingdom

The magnitude of the underwriting losses experienced by the market should result in premium rates hardening and also discourage underwriters from following the policy of writing risks solely to obtain premium volume irrespective of the size of the potential liabilities they may be incurring.

Other Territories

The improvement in our German result has materialised. In Canada, whilst higher premium rates were forced through, this has continued to result in business being lost to competitors.

Life

New business growth plans were again achieved overall and new annual premiums increased by 15% with new single premiums recording a 138% rise.

Prospects

We shall actively continue our policy of working primarily towards improvement in profitability rather than increase in volume in all territories and classes of business.

City Comment

Aid for our economic acorns

Ministers have been making great play since the Budget of the measures being introduced to help the small companies sector.

The number of new companies being formed has risen steadily since 1977 with a particularly sharp upswing last year when company registrations jumped by a fifth.

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Goldsmith: 'silly controls'

The Institute's own checklist of recommendations for reform runs to 73, covering anything from the Low Voltage Directive, which it supports, to the monetary compensation amounts, which it wants abolished. It urges through-going reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy, endorses plans to harmonize trade union obligations and rejects harmonization of employee participation.

Advertisement for Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance, featuring a building illustration and text: 'Copies of the full Annual Report for 1982 are obtainable from The Secretary, Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc, Royal Exchange, London EC3V 3LS. Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance An insurance service worldwide'

# ICI profits take the City by storm

ICI took the market by storm with its £128m profit figure against the most bullish estimates of around £10m for the first quarter of 1983.

As the market worked out during the day, last week's caution which tinged the chairman's optimism was justified. Of the improved profit £20m comes from currency profits relating to 1982 contracts, and which may prove to be one-off. Knocking that out would bring pre-tax figures down to £108m for the first quarter - almost bang in the middle of the market's adjusted forecast range.

The initial reaction was to push ICI's share index back through the 700-mark, and the shares still finished the day at a near-record closing price of 476p.

A gain of 2p on the day where there has been such a strong bull position over the last couple of accounts is still respectable, but there does not seem to be a great deal to go for - particularly if the market as a whole is near its top.

Much will depend on how enthusiastically the US interest in the shares is maintained.

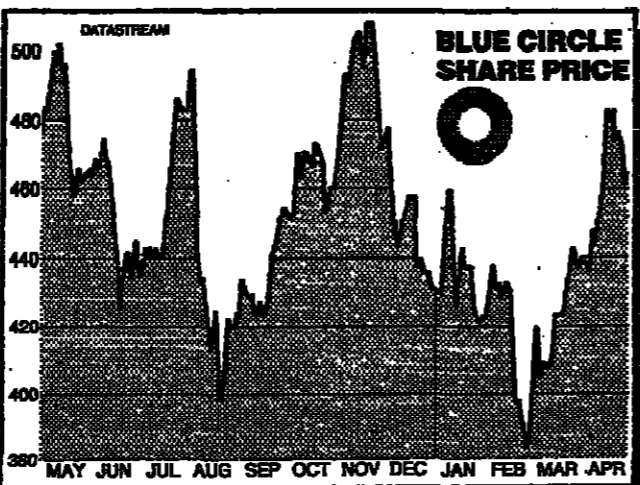
## Blue Circle

Blue Circle Year to 31-12-82 Pretax profit £90m (£104.1m) Stated earnings 52.5p (48.1p) Turnover £765.2m (£750.2m) Net final dividend 12.25p making 18.25p (17.5p) Share price 463 up 2p. Yield 5.6%

A surge in UK profits has saved Blue Circle from the more painful effects of the dramas that have been effecting its leading businesses in Latin America.

Group pretax profits last year dropped from £104.1m to £90m. That is not bad performance in the light of the £37m downturn that occurred in Mexican and Chilean trading profits under pressure from economic collapse and plunging currencies.

Enormous price increases in Mexico and significant progress



In the negotiations to refinance \$270m of Mexican borrowings that have assumed monumental proportions in local currency terms as the peso has collapsed, are unlikely to halt the decline in Latin American returns this year. With volumes still falling, a recovery in Latin American profits, for so long Blue Circle's growth provider, is going to have to wait 1984.

After last year's rise of a quarter in UK trading profits to £42.5m, boosted by a 4 per cent growth in volume and substantial cost savings, there should be

further good progress in 1983. It has been well over a year since the last price rise.

With the industry's common price agreement once more under pressure, both commercially and from the office of Fair Trading it is going to prove difficult to push another through this year.

Volume is projected to rise between 3 and 5 per cent and the company will continue to derive benefit from its cost cutting and energy efficiency programme.

## John Laing

John Laing Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £1.3m (£8.1m) Stated loss per share 4.5p (14.7p) Turnover £773m (719m) Final dividend 1.875p making 2.875p (same) Shares price 110p up 15p Yield 3.7%

John Laing, Britain's second largest construction group, caught a cold in its three main

overseas markets last year. Problems ranged from the cancellation of a £40m dam building contract and unreliable management in Venezuela, to a write down of £4.8m on two large contracts in the Middle East.

The result was that exceptional losses of £13.3m and extraordinary losses of £5.8m were included in the 1982 results. Without the problems overseas, the company said, pretax profits of £1.3m against £6.1m last year would have been much higher.

In 1983 the group hopes that profits will be in the region of £23m if all goes well.

**George Wimpey, the house-building group, managed a £7m increase in pretax profits to £45.7m in 1982 compared with the previous year on a turnover which increased from £1.1bn to £1.24bn. A final dividend of £1.25p is recommended, making 3p for the year against 2.8p last time.**

# £24m Dowable bid for Cope lapses

By Andrew Cornallios

The bid for Cope Allman, the leisure and packaging group, by the Dowable consortium, lapsed yesterday.

Robert Fleming & Company, the merchant bankers to Dowable, said that after receiving acceptances representing only 22.7 per cent of Cope Allman's share capital, Dowable was unable to declare the offer unconditional. Therefore, the offer has lapsed.

Mr David Wickins, the chairman of British Car Auctions, and who heads the consortium, launched his near £24m offer for Cope Allman early last month after joining

forces with Mr Michael Ashcroft, head of the Hawley Group, the leisure and entertainments company, and Lin Pac, the packaging and containers company.

The Dowable consortium held a 14 per cent stake in Cope Allman when the bid was announced. It had launched a similar consortium-based takeover attempt last December.

The present takeover battle was bitterly contested by Cope Allman when the Dowable offer was unsolicited and unwelcome.

## Dottridge buy-out

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Dottridge Brothers of North London, one of the oldest names in the funeral trade which has been a family-run private company since 1835, is being bought out by its senior manager, Mr Frank Strudwick.

Dottridge, which has about 30 trading branches in the South East and employs about 200 people, is among the top 20 funeral companies in Britain. There are about 600,000 funerals a year in Britain and costs for a funeral vary from £300 to £400.

The management team which is buying Dottridge for £1.5m is Group Captain Anthony Dottridge, the 66-year-old chairman who was a Second World War fighter pilot; Mr Victor Taylor, the 40-year-old managing director and Mr Simon Strudwick, finance director.

The three are taking three quarters of the equity with the rest covered by a term loan from County Bank which is continuing as the company's financial adviser. Dottridge has an annual turnover of £3.4m.

### Granville & Co Limited.

(Formerly M. J. H. Nighthale & Co. Limited)  
27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

#### The Over-the-Counter Market

Share	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	Dividend	Market %
142	120 As Brit Ind Ord	134	-	6.4	4.8	7.8
158	117 As Brit Ind CULS	152	-	10.0	6.6	-
74	57 Aegys Group	62ad	-	6.1	9.8	17.7
46	30 Armitage & Rhodes	40	-	4.3	14.3	3.5
325	197 Bardon Egg	325	-	11.4	3.5	13.7
144	100 OCL 10% Conv Prof	144	-	15.7	10.9	-
270	210 Cludion Group	210	-	17.6	8.4	-
86	30 Debonch Services	90	-	6.0	12.0	3.5
97	77 Frank Horrell	97	-	8.1	8.1	8.7
95	75% Frank Horrell Pr Ord	95.5	-	8.7	9.1	10.6
83	61 Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.5	3.9
55	34 George Blair	34	-	-	-	5.9
100	74 Ind Prec Castings	77	-	7.3	9.5	9.9
166	100 Isa Conv Prof	166	-	15.7	9.5	-
146	94 Jackson Group	146	-	7.5	5.1	4.5
214	111 James Burroughs	214	-	9.6	4.5	15.6
260	148 Robert Jenkins	152	-	20.0	13.2	17.4
83	54 Scitones "A"	69	-	5.7	8.3	9.0
167	112 Torday & Carlisle	114	-	11.4	10.0	5.1
29	21 Unibank Holdings	26	-	0.46	1.6	-
85	64 Walter Alexander	67	-	6.4	2.6	4.8
270	214 W. S. Yates	265	-	17.1	6.5	4.1

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

#### LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Prices in pounds per metric ton  
Silver in ounce per troy ounce

Commodity	Price	Change
Cash	1117-1120	-
Three months	1148.50-1149	-
Standard cash (copper)	-	-
Cash	1094-1095	-
Three months	1115-1116	-
Lead	2870-2875	-
Three months	2935-2940	-
Zinc	308-309	-
Three months	320-321	-
Silver cash	476-477	-
Three months	478-479	-
Aluminium cash	776-778	-
Three months	795-796	-
Nickel cash	670-671	-
Three months	690-691	-

#### WHEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices

at representative markets on March 9  
SSE Cattle: 68.25p per lb liv (0.17)  
SSE Sheep: 52.5p per lb liv (0.15)  
SSE Pig: 58.75p per lb liv (0.19)  
Cattle nos down 30.6 per cent, a/c; price: 94.21p (0.06)  
Sheep nos up 38.1 per cent, a/c; price: 58.70p (0.15)  
Pigs nos up 1.7 per cent, a/c; price: 58.70p (0.19)

#### LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES

Contract	Price	Change
July/Aug	744-746	-
Oct/Nov	747-749	-
Jan/Feb	748-750	-
Apr/May	749-751	-
July/Aug	750-752	-
Oct/Nov	751-753	-
Jan/Feb	752-754	-
Apr/May	753-755	-

#### COMMODITIES

Commodity	Price	Change
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-
Wool	480-485	-

## COMPANY NEW IN BRIEF

<b>Farnell Electronics</b> Year to 30.11.83 Pretax profit, £10.44m (£7.81m) Stated earnings, 6.5p (5.5p) Turnover, £41.87m (£39.58m) Net dividend, 2.0p (1.55p, adjusted)	<b>Pochin's</b> Half-year to 30.11.82 Pretax profit, £256,000 (£201,000) Turnover, £3.75m (£3.28m) Net interim dividend, 0.875p (0.875p)	<b>Aero Needles Group</b> Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit, £263,000 (£257,000 loss) Stated earnings, 3.88 p (profit, 15.00p) Turnover, £9.23m (£8.39m) Net dividend, nil (nil)
<b>Davies &amp; Newman Holdings</b> Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit, £3.31m (£342,000) Stated earnings, 67.0p (1.0p) Turnover, £183.84m (£154.47m) Net dividend, 10p (8p)	<b>Whatman Reeve Angel</b> Year to 31/12/82 Pretax profit, £2.52m (£1.9m) Stated earnings, 27.0p (£25.55p) Turnover, £18.43m (£16.7m) Net dividend, 6.0p (5.0p)	<b>Hawkins &amp; Tipson</b> Half-year to 28/2/83 Pretax loss, £57,000 (£57,000 loss) Stated earnings (loss) 0.6p (loss, 6.42p) Turnover, £6.78m (£8.22m) Net interim dividend, nil (nil)
<b>Platinum</b> Year to 31.1.83. Pretax loss, £860,000 (£816,000 loss) Net dividend, nil (0.01p)	<b>Samuel Properties</b> Half-year to 31/12/82 Pretax profit, £1.54m (£1.53m) Stated earnings, 3.60p (3.60p) Net interim dividend, 1.43p (1.3p)	<b>Francis Industries</b> Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit, £24,000 (£1.73m) Stated earnings, 0.68p (13.70p) Turnover, £32.68m (£29.85m) Net dividend, 2.0p (5.0p)

# Norwich Union

The Chairman Mr MG Falcon CBE, DL reports:

**LIFE SOCIETY**  
A modest increase in new business against a background of unsettled market conditions. Bonuses to policyholders increased in October and again at the year end.

**FIRE SOCIETY**  
Turnover maintained at 1981 levels, but severe competition caused pre-tax profits to fall to £26m.

## Life Society

1982 was a year of unusual ups and downs. Sales of individual life insurance and pension policies did well but new company pension business languished. In the United Kingdom we invested £318m of new money, of which £93m went into property, £163m into ordinary shares and £62m into British Government Stocks.

The market value of the Life Society's assets rose substantially to £4,639m, and considerable improvements were made to our bonuses, and hence to the sums we pay to policyholders.

## Fire Society

Against a worldwide background of reckless competition, we resolved to set premiums at levels adequate to maintain our service yet remain relatively competitive. This has meant the loss of some business. Worldwide premium income did not advance on 1981.

Pre-tax profits dropped by one third to £26m, the increase in our investment income being more than absorbed by deteriorating underwriting results.

A return to a healthier market is likely to be slow, but indications are emerging of improved underwriting standards. This provides a glimmer of hope for longer term prospects.

## NW Group

Norwich Winterthur, in which the Fire Society has a 45 per cent interest, produced an estimated pre-tax loss of £2.6 million compared with £8.4 million profit in 1981. This loss was primarily caused by extremely poor reinsurance results.

## Banking

Norwich General Trust, which specialises in loans to industry and commerce, continued to receive considerable demand for its services. During the year 230 new advances were made for £19m, taking total advances to over £75m. AP Bank also had a good year in 1982. There was a large increase in loans, mainly as short to medium term advances to U.K. companies, and turnover in the Foreign Exchange department showed a marked increase.

Life Society	1982	1981
TOTAL PREMIUMS	£470.7m	£394.8m
New Annual Premiums	78.7	75.1
New Single Premiums	118.8	74.8
Cost of Bonuses		
Annual	112.6	85.7
Terminal	15.6	13.3
Special	61.3	-
ANALYSIS OF PREMIUMS		
United Kingdom	367.6	309.4
Republic of Ireland	13.4	11.1
Overseas	89.7	74.3
Group Assets	£5,682.8m	£4,355.6m
Fire Society		
PREMIUMS	£251.3m	£250.2m
Investment income	51.8	44.7
Underwriting loss	(20.8)	(4.8)
Associated Companies' earnings	(1.2)	2.9
Expenses not charged to other accounts	(3.6)	(3.6)
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	26.2	39.2
Taxation and Minority Interests	10.5	17.8
NET PROFIT	15.7	21.6
Dividends	10.0	10.0
ANALYSIS		
	1982	1981
United Kingdom	£250.0m	£259.7m
Republic of Ireland	18.3	17.3
Overseas	31.5	23.3
Marine & Aviation	20.0	17.3
Less Reinsurance with Associates	(74.5)	(72.4)
Totals	251.3	250.2
Investment income attributable to Insurance Operations	34.3	29.8
Insurance Result	13.5	25.0
Norwich Winterthur Group (Fire Society owns 45%)		
Unaudited Results	1982	1981
Premiums	£201.5m	£172.1m
Profit before Taxation	(2.6)	6.4

Copies of the Directors' Report and Group Accounts including the Chairman's full Statement may be obtained from the Norwich Union Insurance Group, PO Box 48, Norwich, NR1 3TA.



The Annual General Meeting of the Norwich Union Life Insurance Society will be held on the 10th May 1983 in Norwich

## Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Bancays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 1/2 %
C. Hoare & Co	10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

# WEIR

## PROGRESS

	1982	1981
Turnover	£7000	£7000
Profit before interest and tax	136,901	152,220
Interest	10,136	13,071
Profit before tax	(2456)	(4,773)
Shareholders' funds	7,680	8,298
Total borrowings	43,481	42,361
Earnings per share, fully diluted		
Historic cost	7.0p	10.7p
Current cost	3.4p	6.7p
Proposed total dividends:		
on Convertible Preference Shares	2.5p	1.5616p
on Ordinary Shares	2.5p	1.85p

A further reduction in Group borrowings, made possible by maintaining profitability and controlling cash flow despite difficult market conditions, has placed the Group in a much improved financial position with a return to normal banking arrangements.

The signs of recovery in the USA and elsewhere, even if maintained, will take some months to work through into capital plant orders which would benefit the Group. The recent fall in oil prices will reduce expenditure by oil producers, and this, with depressed markets, means that 1983 will be a difficult year.

However, the Group is now strong enough to weather a continuing storm if that should be necessary. Improvements in profitability will mainly depend on an upturn in the UK and world economies.

WEIR GROUP - pumps, power plant auxiliaries, steel castings, metal pattern equipment, water desalination plant, engineering contracting. Group companies employ 5,000. Subsidiary and associate companies in Canada, Australia, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Middle East, Far East and Nigeria.

Copies of the Reports and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, The Weir Group PLC, Cathcart, Glasgow, G44 4EX.

**WEIR**  
THE WEIR GROUP PLC

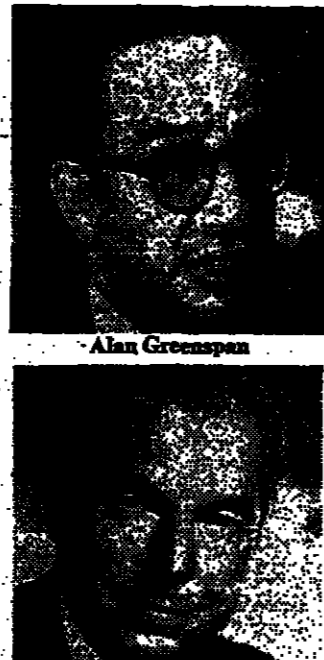
Pressure on President to decide on Volcker, Bailey Morris reports

Will Reagan's turbulent central banker survive?

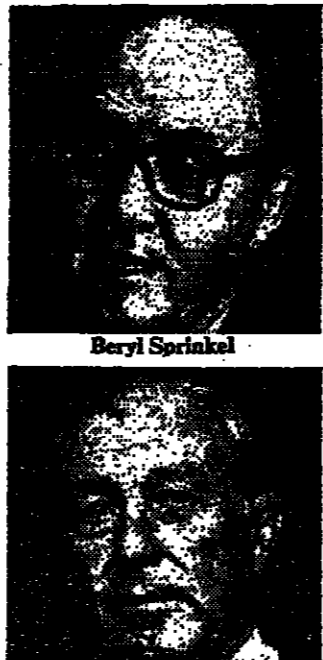
Mr Paul Adolph Volcker last week received that rarest of Washington benedictions - a personal apology from the President of the United States...



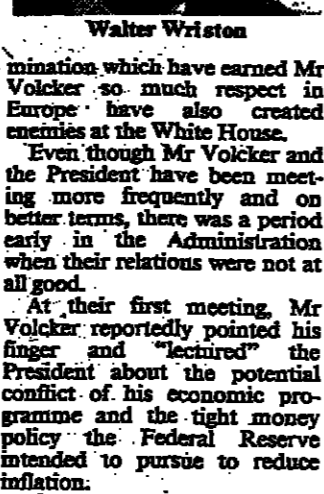
Paul Volcker



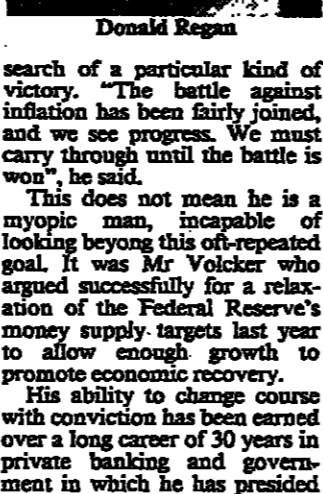
Alan Greenspan



Beryl Sprinkel



Walter Wriston



Donald Regan

than the rest put together. Could Professor Milton Friedman, the 70-year old Nobel laureate and arch-evangelist of monetarist free enterprise...

Detractors ask President to drop Fed's chairman

The other candidates are all faulted for a disarming lack of knowledge and experience of the workings of both the Federal Reserve system and the International Monetary System...

Some of Mr Reagan's advisers still remember the meeting and cannot forgive Mr Volcker for what they regard as arrogant and extremely uncooperative behaviour...

Wall Street support gives pause for thought

For this reason, his friends believe Mr Volcker would accept reappointment even though he would do so at great personal cost...

search of a particular kind of victory. "The battle against inflation has been fairly joined, and we see progress. We must carry through until the battle is won", he said.

Now, during another difficult period when the world is beginning to question this system, it is the same Mr Volcker who is recommending that changes be pursued at a new international conference on the monetary system.

The suggestion which Wall Street has put to Mr Reagan is Reappoint Mr Paul Volcker in August with the private understanding that the central bank chairman will resign in a year's time to allow the President to select his own candidate during his second term of office.

APPOINTMENTS

ACA's top officers are named

Mr N K Grant has been elected president of The Association of Certified Accountants, Mr F E Blandale was elected deputy president and Mr P I Hobbsman vice-president to serve for the year 1983-84.

Mr Andrew Harding has been appointed a non-executive director of H P Bulmer Holdings.

Mr Robert L Millbourn has been appointed a director of Robert Fraser & Partners. He was previously a director of subsidiary Robert Fraser International, Mr R J Lambie and Mr D W Ashworth have been appointed assistant directors of Robert Fraser & Partners.

Sir Anthony Boyle has joined the board of directors of Allegheny International. In addition he has been appointed president of Wilkinson Sword Group, a wholly owned subsidiary of Allegheny International.

Mr Timothy Haddock has been appointed vice president, Amx Iron Ore Corporation.

Mr C J Davies has joined the partnership of Lyddon & Company, stockbrokers.

Mr Billy Mawhood has been appointed director, sales and marketing, for the Twinlock Group in Ireland.

Mr R Jenkins has been appointed chief executive of Jervis.

Mr Graham F. Pottier, Mr Roderic H. Smith, Mr John L. Sullivan and Mr Paul E. Walsh have been appointed to the board of Antony Gibbs Holdings, a member of The Hongkong Bank Group.

Mr John H. Barnes has been appointed a director of the London board of Korn Ferry International.

The Unit Trust Price tables have been held over because of pressure on space.

Industrial notebook

Harsh realities of the oil business

In Houston, the acknowledged centre of the Texan oil industry, unemployment has doubled in the last year and now exceeds the national average for the first time in many years.

Such are the harsh realities of the oil business in the country where it all began more than a 100 years ago. After the extraordinary transatlantic boom in drilling and oil investment that began during the 1979/80 oil price rises, the tide has turned with a vengeance.

In fifteen months, the number of rigs in use has tumbled from its all-time high of 4,520 to fewer than 1,900 where it stands below the level achieved in 1978 before the boom took off.

The collapse of the Penn Square Bank last year and this week's rescue of Seafair Corporation are only the most visible signs of the financial distress caused by intertemporal loans to oil and other energy projects.



Former President Carter: End of his proposals

dollars on just four years ago have ground to a halt. To cap it all (from the industry's point of view), even the price of petrol has fallen in some areas below the \$1 a gallon mark.

There are now some signs that the worst of the deterioration in the industry's fortunes is coming to an end.

The American oil industry has always taken a determinedly macho attitude to risk, so nobody will be shedding any tears over the fact that its fortunes have taken a turn for the worse.

For one thing the fact that the largest oil consuming nation in the West has now turned its back on most of its future investments in alternative energy sources is the most

telling reminder so far that the West has failed to take precautions against becoming dependent on precarious Middle East oil supplies again in the future.

For another, it goes a long way towards explaining why the Reagan Administration has been so reluctant to say publicly whether or not it wants oil prices to fall. All the evidence is that the Administration's instincts are to press for further price falls and the disintegration of Opec but that this has run up against the lobbying power of both the oil industry and the Saudis.

Jonathan Davis

TENDERS MUST BE LODGED AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND, NEW ISSUES ONLY, 100, MARK LANE, LONDON EC3R 7BN, NOT LATER THAN 10.00 AM ON THURSDAY, 5TH MAY 1983, OR AT ANY OF THE BRANCHES OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND OR AT THE GLASGOW OFFICE OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND NOT LATER THAN 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 4TH MAY 1983.

ISSUE BY TENDER OF £1,000,000,000. 2 1/2 per cent INDEX-LINKED TREASURY CONVERTIBLE STOCK, 1999. PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS: £40.00 per cent on Monday, 6th June 1983; £30.00 per cent on Monday, 4th July 1983.

1. This Stock is an investment falling within Part I of the First Schedule to the Trustee Investments Act 1961. Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the Stock to be admitted to the Official List.

Tuesday, 10th May 1983. TENDERS LODGED WITHOUT A PRICE BEING STATED WILL BE REJECTED.

Table with 2 columns: Amount of Stock tendered for, Multiple. Rows include £100-£1,000, £1,000-£2,000, etc.

21. Tenders must be for a minimum of £100 nominal of Stock and for multiples of Stock as follows: £100-£1,000 (Multiple £100), £1,000-£2,000 (Multiple £200), etc.

BANK OF ENGLAND LONDON 25th April 1983. THIS FORM MAY BE USED TENDER FORM.

ISSUE BY TENDER OF £1,000,000,000. 2 1/2 per cent Index-Linked Treasury Convertible Stock, 1999.

Form for tendering for stock, including fields for Nominal Amount of Stock, Amount of Deposit, and Tender Price.

14. If any change should be made to the coverage or the basic calculation of the index which is the option of the Bank of England, contains a fundamental change to the index which is materially detrimental to the interests of stockholders...

Table of Canadian Prices listing various stocks like Alcan, Inco, and Imperial Oil with their respective prices.

Why General Motors lags behind

New York (NYT) - The automobile industry has been one of the first big sectors of the American economy to recover from the recession.

Last week, GM helped to stoke the fires of a strong market by announcing first-quarter earnings of \$2.08 a share, its largest quarterly profit in more than four years.

According to Miss Knight: "I can see this stock selling at \$100 by the late summer of next year, as people there will be anticipating a further increase in profits for 1985 at the likely top of the current automotive cycle."

followers say. The stock now yields about 3.7 per cent. Last week, GM helped to stoke the fires of a strong market by announcing first-quarter earnings of \$2.08 a share, its largest quarterly profit in more than four years.

Miss Knight estimated that the company would earn \$9.50 a share in 1983 and \$13 in 1984. Mr David Healy, of Drexel Burnham Lambert, estimated \$9.75 a share for this year and \$15 next year.

The dividend pay-out at GM held at a quarterly rate of 60 cents a share in 1981 and 1982. That means a yearly rate of \$2.40 a share. In 1977, when profits were robust, the company paid a year-end dividend of \$3.25 a share on its common stock, along with quarterly dividends. That year, the GM

cash pay-out amounted to a record figure of \$6.80 a share on Monday to decide on the common stock dividend for the second quarter.

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FOOTBALL: MANAGERS HAVE THEIR SAY AFTER EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP TIES

Injury to Withe disrupts Robson's plans

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Bobby Robson yesterday lost the England centre forward he found on Wednesday night. Withe broke his thumb during the first half of the European Championship tie against Hungary at Wembley and suffered a depressed fracture of his cheekbone during the second and is out for the rest of the league season.

Robson admitted that he had added Withe to the party merely as "a stop gap" after Woodcock had joined his club. Woodcock was added with not a little courage as well. "He did wonderfully well for the first goal because not many would have held on to the ball in that position."

How they stand at halfway stage

Table showing football standings for Group three, Group four, Group seven, and Group two.



Withe: courage personified

Eggs and euphoria for the Welshmen

By Peter Ball

The right result covers a lot of cracks, and it was understandable that Mike England was in tears reloaded and enthusiastic over breakfast in his Llangollen hotel yesterday morning.

Irish like big time

By David Powell

Northern Ireland are planning to fire their next European Championship shot not in the group six match with Austria in September but against England in the British Championship on May 28.

TENNIS

Gunfire stops play on court

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Richard Lewis beat Robin Drysdale 6-3, 4-6, 7-5 to reach the last of the men's singles in the British Home Stores tournament at Hampstead yesterday.

Denton pays call - and faces Lendl

From a Special Correspondent

Breaking his journey to Houston and calling in at the World Championship Tennis finals proved a lucky decision for Steve Denton, a husky Texan.

SNOOKER

Davis pins down the mercurial Irishman

By Sydney Friskin



Thornburn: snooker is the cue for a game of patience

Steve Davis, the 1981 champion, was all grace and ease against the declining champion, Alex Higgins, when their semi-final of the world championship, sponsored by Embassy, began at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday.

Renewing the struggle

From the stream of political undercurrents has emerged the well-known saying: "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em."

Walter Watson, of Snookersport, may not win his battle against the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) but he intends to stand firm for the renewal of his contract to promote the next world professional snooker championship.

CRICKET: WEATHER STILL HOLDS THE UPPER HAND

'Whale' makes bow wave at Lord's

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

The weather at Lord's yesterday was perfect for cricket. It was warm for some of the year, the sun shone almost without interruption. Spectators picked up in their shirtsleeves. The only trouble was that the ground was so hopelessly waterlogged that play was possible in the match between MCC and Middlesex.

Lever has Cambridge in trouble

By Richard Streeton

Oxford University and Somerset, provided the weather relents, hope to play a 50-over match in the Parks today. Permission was obtained from Lord's for their scheduled three-day fixture to be abandoned yesterday after a start could not be made for the second day in succession.

Five Blues available to Toogood

By Richard Streeton

Both teams are desperate for practice. Somerset's outdoor preparation at Taunton this April has been limited to one afternoon in which their batsmen each had 15 minutes' practice.

Guide to the season's competitions

World Cup, NatWest Bank Trophy, County Championship, John Player, Amarnath leads Indian recovery, Benson and Hedges Cup, Test series, Four matches.

Leaver: seven wickets

Table listing cricket statistics for Leaver, including runs, wickets, and other performance metrics.

Strike averted

By Rex Bellamy

A 24-hour strike by players of Hartlepool was called off last night when the players were paid their wages a week late.

FOR THE RECORD

Table listing various sports records and results, including baseball, basketball, and tennis.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Cup mercy for Kemble

Gary Kemble, the Hull and New Zealand full back, breathed a sigh of relief after yesterday's disciplinary committee meeting in Leeds.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table listing today's fixtures for various sports including football, tennis, and snooker.

RACING: CRIQUETTE HEAD BECOMES FIRST LADY OF THE ENGLISH CLASSICS

Ma Biche pays back a shaikh's ransom

The enormous Arabian investment in bloodstock reaped its richest dividend so far this season when Freddie Head rode Ma Biche to a decisive victory in the 1,000 guineas at Newmarket yesterday.

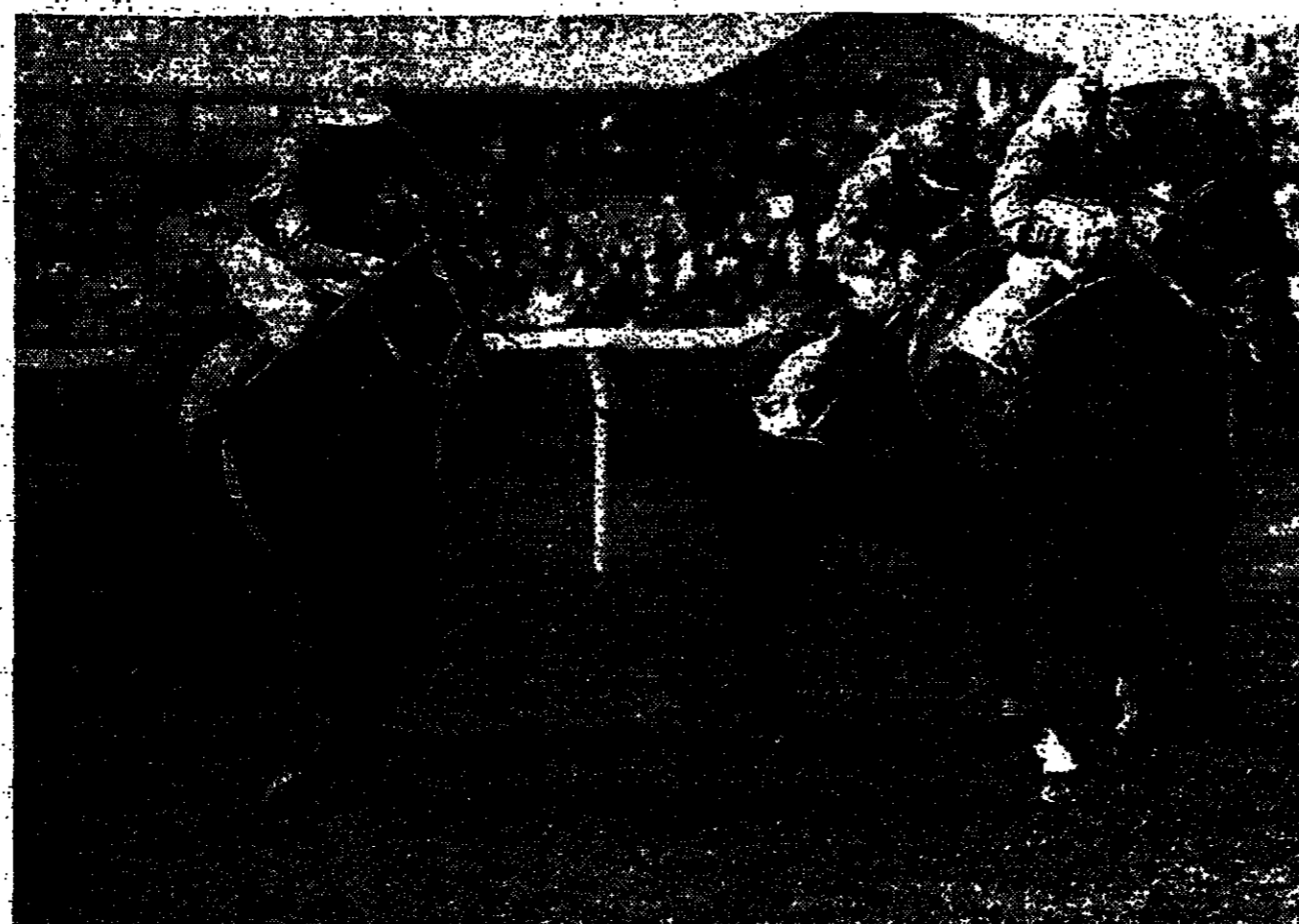
This victory also represented a personal triumph for Criquette Head. In 1979 she became the first woman to train a winner at the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe when she trained the French-trained Royal Heroine with three. Today she beat Le Marmot and Troy. And yesterday she became the first of her sex to saddle an English Classic winner.

Watching the finish it was easy to understand why people are so enthralled by the Royal Heroine at the Bushey. At this point Habibi and Rare Roberto were well placed. But Eddy was poised on the outside to challenge on Favoridge, who was not travelling quite as sweetly as you would have expected.

Michael Stoute has now had the frustrating experience of saddling the runner up in the 1,000 Guineas for the third time. Fair Salina having finished second to Etonstone Park in 1978 and Our Home to Quick as Lightning in 1980.

Head has been French champion jockey several times and has won four Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Yet curiously enough his only previous English classic success was gained on Zino in last year's 2,000 Guineas.

Mrs Head is obviously not aware of these fine points of her brother's racing career.



Ma Biche is chased home by Royal Heroine and Habibi (fourth, stripes). The third horse, Favoridge, is out of the picture.

"The best filly over a mile that I have ever ridden." Ma Biche is a magnificent looking filly by Key to the Kingdom out of Madge. This is a family well known to English racing as Madge is a half sister to the Cheveley Park Stakes winner, Miss And Ma Biche's grand-dam Madge also won our top two-year-old race for fillies and finished second to Honeylight in the 1956 1,000 Guineas.

Before her sale to Shaikh Maktoum Ma Biche raced in the hands of Alzo Head's wife, Ghidala. The filly back to England to race for the Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot. "I have been lucky in England and will be coming here again. The Irish 1,000 Guineas is an alternative target but that would probably come too soon."

The Maktoum brothers of Dubai now own an incredible 238 horses and are said to have spent over £30m on feedings alone last year. The reported £6m that Shaikh Mohammed laid out for Dunbeath also looked a realistic price after the Derby favorite had finished second, one and a half lengths behind Shearwalk in the Highhorn Stakes.

Lester Pigott is one of the great jockeys of all time. Yesterday the poked-faced maestro appeared to be on a fact-finding mission on Dunbeath. The pair were still towards the rear with three furlongs to run. By the time they reached a challenging position Dunbeath had stolen first run on Shearwalk.

Diamond Shoal to capitalize on a priceless asset

So, too, was Henry Cecil delighted with the horse whose preparation was interrupted earlier in the spring by a spruing carb. Dunbeath is quoted at 6-1 for the Derby by the tote.

Swburn had hidden an enterprising race, but Shearwalk certainly deserves full marks for courage. Despite being stired by Godswalk, Shearwalk possesses stamina well in excess of speed. This factor contributed to his defeat in some of the top two-year-old races last season.

Godswalk, Shearwalk possesses stamina well in excess of speed. This factor contributed to his defeat in some of the top two-year-old races last season. Michael Stoute plans to run Shearwalk in either the Lingfield Derby Trial or in the Mecca-Dante stakes en route to Epsom.

stall to shed her winter coat. In the circumstances, she has not been given the same training preparation that she was subjected to last spring before she finished second in the 1,000 Guineas.

Meetings in jeopardy

Today's race meeting at Carlisle has been abandoned because of waterlogging and the April of meetings lost in the west.

Ripon stewards inspect at 11 am today, Haydock at 3 pm and Worcester at 4 pm.

Our Newmarket Correspondent has a fascinating feature of the last year's Italian Derby winner, Old Country, who is trained here by Luca Cumani.

boasts the Austrian 2,000 Guineas and Derby among his triumphs; the St. Leger runner-up, Zlhos, and the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot.

When Ballesteros built a record 64 out of nothing

Severino Ballesteros turned a round which promised little after eight unproductive holes into a record-breaking 64, eight under par to take command in the first round of the £50,000 Italian Open at the Ugozone course here yesterday.

He led by three strokes from Ian Mooney, Gordon Brand jr, Bernhard Langer, Juan Anglada and Wayne Snee on the defending champion, Mark James, is among a group on 68 and Sandy Lyle, winner in Madrid last week, took 69.

True to form in this game, it did not quite work out that way. Ballesteros found the green at the eleventh (283 yards) with a three-wood but he was strongly snubbed and a little out of touch.

He managed a four at the long eighteenth but, having covered his opening nine holes in 34, it seemed time to leave him alone and take notice of how Ian Mooney and Sam Torrance were continuing.

China hold on team titles looks secure

Tokyo (Reuters) - China made a predictably powerful start when they opened their defence of the team titles at the thirty-seventh world championships here yesterday.

China, led by the France champion Guo Yuehua, play Sweden today in what promises to be one of the most fascinating encounters of the tournament. The Swedes had their problems beating the United States and if this is any indication of form they will also fall to China.

IOC will reconSIDER drug rules

Lausanne (AP) - The International Olympic Committee (IOC) will study its drug-testing requirements after the Los Angeles Olympic Games organizing committee's refusal to test athletes for caffeine and testosterone at the 1984 games.

Harold Cudmore, the Irish sailor who was one of the first to be retained by the Loughborough-based sailing syndicate, has left the squad now preparing for its challenge for the America's Cup in September.

The Jockey Club have been their rules preventing the division of sponsored races, so that the National Hunt flat race at Cheltenham next Wednesday can be split.

Barry Sheene and Kenny Roberts will be competing for a £20,000 prize when they lead their teams in the first round of the Marlboro Transatlantic Trophy at Oulton Park tomorrow.

One of two new men have joined the crew squad from which the eventual challenge crew will be selected; otherwise the personnel are the same as for the first time in 18 years.

Barry Sheene and Kenny Roberts will be competing for a £20,000 prize when they lead their teams in the first round of the Marlboro Transatlantic Trophy at Oulton Park tomorrow.

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Newmarket

Table with horse racing results for Newmarket. Columns include race name, horse, jockey, time, and odds. Races include 2.35 Prettily Stakes, 2.35 Jockey Club Stakes, 3.10 Chevington Stakes, 3.40 Burwell Handicap, 3.5 British Sugar Silver Spoon Handicap.

Taunton

Table with horse racing results for Taunton. Columns include race name, horse, jockey, time, and odds. Races include 5.45 Motorway Hurdle, 5.45 Motorway Chase, 6.15 Peter Blackburn Chase.

Newmarket results

Table with horse racing results for Newmarket. Columns include race name, horse, jockey, time, and odds. Races include 2.05 Wiltshire Stakes, 2.35 Prettily Stakes, 2.35 Jockey Club Stakes.

Newmarket selections

Table with horse racing selections for Newmarket. Columns include race name, horse, jockey, and odds. Races include 2.05 My Valentine, 2.35 Prince Sny, 3.35 Diamond Shoal, 4.10 Our Dynasty.

Newmarket results

Table with horse racing results for Newmarket. Columns include race name, horse, jockey, time, and odds. Races include 2.05 My Valentine, 2.35 Prince Sny, 3.35 Diamond Shoal, 4.10 Our Dynasty.

Newmarket results

Table with horse racing results for Newmarket. Columns include race name, horse, jockey, time, and odds. Races include 2.05 Wiltshire Stakes, 2.35 Prettily Stakes, 2.35 Jockey Club Stakes.

Newmarket selections

Table with horse racing selections for Newmarket. Columns include race name, horse, jockey, and odds. Races include 2.05 My Valentine, 2.35 Prince Sny, 3.35 Diamond Shoal, 4.10 Our Dynasty.

A team with an inimitable style

Prosser, the power behind the Pontypool machine

"I had to come to see for myself," the faithful Coventry supporter said.



Ray Prosser (left) and a great Pontypool and Wales forward of recent years, Terry Cobner

The beauty and graciousness of the park is an incongruous setting for a style of play with few subtleties.

A man of the valleys he is a reluctant traveller and even had to think twice and more whether he could find it in himself to go to New Zealand with the Lions in 1959.

The park, once the possession of the Hanbury family, is now under the jurisdiction of the Torfaen district council.

Such is their command of possession in every phase that the opposition invariably have to live on a diet which is positively anaemic in its economy.

Gerald Davies

Referees taking European finals

The first leg of the UEFA Cup final between Anderlecht and Benfica, on May 4, will be refereed by Rogdan Dotschev.

Boxing Patterson's turn to be taught his job

Among the many words spoken at yesterday's press luncheon for the Wembley boxing promotion on Tuesday it was curious that not one was exchanged between Scott Ledoux, who meets Frank Bruno, and his distinguished fellow American, Floyd Patterson.

Squash Rackets Frenchmen serve up big money

A sponsorship of a quarter of a million pounds over three years has been made available by the company, Guy La Roche, beginning with the French Open championships from May 10 to 15.

Student Sport Bring your own atmosphere

Away from Crystal Palace and Gateshead, athletics has not yet become a heavily-supported spectator sport. Athletes like the Bath university sports scholar, Michael Smith, not only train on their own, but find that, in competition, they must create their own atmosphere.

British women's athletics is still in the shadow of such show-stealers as Steve Ovett and Daley Thompson, and in the past men and women middle-distance runners have not only trained separately, but it was assumed that women could not handle the same kind of training programmes.

Disenchantment with the City

There is little evidence to suggest that the Confederation of British Industry's belief of an improved economy is reflected in the property market. Quite the opposite, in fact, as the market's barometer - City offices - continues to look depressed and the short-term forecast is bleak.

Despite talk of new ground being broken in the lettings market as rents climb to record levels, Richard Saunders & Partners City forecasts survey indicates an entirely different picture.

Of course these figures do not include the grandiose office schemes proposed just south of the river within the SE1 postal district. It is built they will probably add a further three to four million sq ft to the existing total.

Commercial property/Baron Philips



Derby-based developers Viking Property Group have released details of their first office project in the US. Located on the corner of Connecticut Avenue and M Street in Washington D.C.

Closer to the City, insurance giant Legal & General has decided to sell its 87,000 sq ft office building in Finsbury Square. The building is in a part of the City which has found little favour among tenants for two or three years; at one time it was estimated that around Finsbury Square and Finsbury Pavement as

lease on the eight-floor building at a rent of less than £10 a sq ft. That may be optimistic in the present market an owner-occupier may be more likely than a tenant.

● A rent of £13 a sq ft is being sought for the Ripley-based group's new 48,700 sq ft office development in Staines. Now under construction, the scheme is being undertaken in conjunction with Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance.

● Plans for a major £35m Birmingham city centre development look set to go ahead following government approval of urban development grant aid for the new Penta House.

The insurance group says it is prepared to grant a new 25-year

COTSWOLDS

Freehold retail premises in prime trading position in the centre of Chipping Norton, the well known market town in the heart of the Cotswolds and an established strategic centre.

Country Property

The Ultimate Weekend Retreat

A detached stone cottage in the Forest of Dean - 2 beds plus 27 x 19 ft room in an acre with 150 trees, 15 mins drive from M4, £25,000.

Mid Sussex

Phantom Green in a quiet out-of-the-way with lovely view to South Downs & in excellent condition. 4 beds. 2 baths, dining rm, kitchen, sitting rm, cloak rm, garage, others in the region £58,000.

Colchester, 10 miles railway station. Large detached Victorian house, 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 3 baths, private driveway, central heating, double glazing, £200,000.

Superior detached residence, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 3 baths, private driveway, central heating, double glazing, £250,000.

Overseas Property

Northern Portugal

Beautifully built, 4 km. houses, 3 beds, garage, swimming pool and 29,000 sq ft. £100,000.

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Low tax area 20% No Corporation Tax No Capital Gains Tax No Capital Transfer Tax

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consisting of Flats 1 to 8 Tadcaster Court and shops in Clarence Street, Richmond, Surrey.

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1,800 sq ft, retail showroom in the heart of Luton town centre. Excellent position with parking and access to main roads.

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No premium, 24 hr access. Prestige firm carpeted offices with plot of 1/2 acre, 24 hr access.

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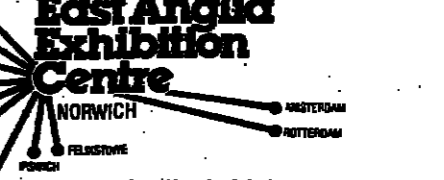
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Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Vauxhall's baby from Spain with boot

The Vauxhall Nova, General Motors' long-awaited answer to the...



Vauxhall Nova: General Motors' answer to the Metro

Vauxhall plan to sell 27,000 Novas by the end of the year and about 50,000 in 1984...

The rear with leg, head and hip room comparable with the best in its class...

The new Toyota unit is claimed to produce 90 per cent of its torque from only 2000 rpm...

New Toyota at a bargain price.

Toyota's all-new Camry 1.8 litre saloon went on sale in Britain last week...

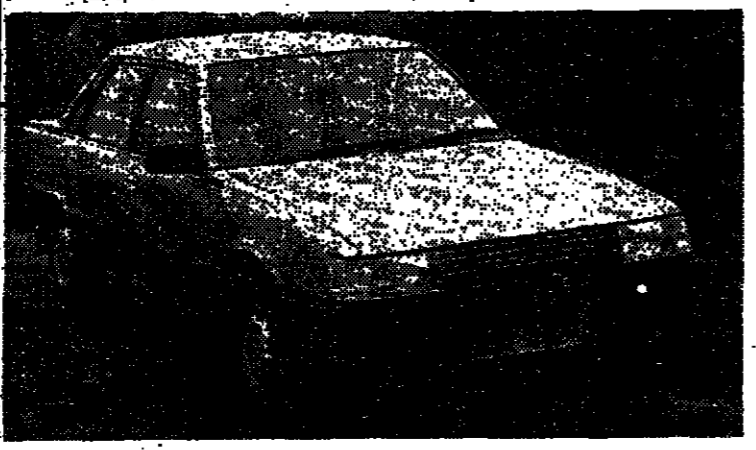
But let me start with the good things. The obvious contender for pride of place is the new ohc aluminium engine...

Despite the use of rack and pinion steering there is also some vagueness about its straight line steering...

Motor caravans

Spring has arrived with a bang for the motor caravan manufacturers and not before time...

The result is a very long-legged, frugal car which in my hands returned about 35 mpg.



Toyota Camry: competitive, but with limitations

V Reg. Rover 3500 V8S. Metallic with velour trim, air conditioning, electric sunroof...

LOTUS ELITE 504 V Reg. Automatic, P.A.S., air conditioned. Only 23,000 miles...

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NEW RANGE ROVER. 4.0 litre. 4000 cc. 4 door. White and wood panel. 1200 cc. 4 door...

THE ULTIMATE! TRIUMPH TR6 TURBO. Built for Le Mans 24 hours 1980...

1978 Model ASTON MARTIN V8. Auto, dark brown mat. with cream leather, 34,000 carful.

Automatic direct dial car telephones. As British Telecom are installing 100's of direct dial phone...

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davale

BBC 1

6.00 Coast to Coast: Any television set can receive this service which gives information about the weather, sport and traffic as well as carrying a comprehensive news coverage.

6.30 Breakfast Time: Elaine Scott and Nick Ross are the presenters. Items include news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Today's papers at 7.30 and 8.30; Breakfast Time doctor (between 6.45 and 7.00); Keep Fit (8.45-9.00); Tonight's TV (7.15-7.30); Gardening (7.30-7.45) and Food and Cooking (8.45-9.00).

9.25 For Schools, Colleges: Higher Education; 9.52 Sex Education; 10.15 Home Economics; 11.00 Quiz: Quiz Game, part 1; 11.19 Hymn of Praise; 11.40 Life and Social Skills; 12.00 Close-down.

12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 Financial Report; And subtitled news headlines.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The lunchtime music and chat show includes Peter Seabrook's regular gardening spot, Dig This; 1.45 Postman Pat (r); 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: A Visitor from Outer Space; 2.35 Ghazal.

3.00 Sir Frank Whitall: Jet Pioneer. A film about the man who made the conventional method of aircraft propulsion obsolete 42 years ago (r).

3.55 Play School: Barbara Mitchell's story: The Very Old Black Kettle (on BBC 2, at 11.00 am); 4.30 The New Schmoos cartoon; 4.40 Playhouse: The Witching Hours. With Geoffrey Baylton, Tony Bonzica and Roy Kinross (r).

5.10 Breakthrough: John Craven tells the story of Joseph Lister who, 120 years ago, pioneered "clean" surgery in London hospitals.

5.40 News: with Jan Learning; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.22 Nationwide, including Desmond Lynam with Sportsworld at 6.45.

7.00 Comedy Classic: The Good Life. The Goodies (Richard Briers, Felicity Kendal) are far less good at selling their garden produce than they are at growing it. With Penelope Keith and Paul Eddington as the adjoining Leadenstair's (r).

7.30 Odd One Out: Quiz show, conducted by Paul Daniels.

8.00 The Time of Your Life: The comedy actress Irene Handl recalls the day in 1937 when she first took to the stage - as maid. Other time travellers in the show, hosted by Noel Edmonds, are Barbara Cardand, Leslie Mitchell, and the Tivvy Writers Band.

8.30 Are you being served? Department store fun. The finger of suspicion points to the Whites (John Wood), when cash goes missing from the till.

9.00 A Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Party; 9.10 News; with Michael Buerk.

9.35 Cagney and Leach: A friend of the two policemen, once a victim of a rape, is forced to leave her courtroom ordeal.

10.25 Isles Apart: The Channel Islands. A wildlife film. With Andrew Cooper; 10.55 News.

11.00 Film: Omelette (1986) Drama, with Merlon Brando as a British agent provocateur who is sent out to a Caribbean island to destroy the rebel leader he created 10 years previously. With Everardo Marquez, Renato Saltaoro. Directed by Gillo Pontavero. Ends at 12.35.

tv-am

6.00 Daybreak, followed at 6.30 by Good Morning Britain presented by Lynne Berry and Nick Owen. Items include news as well as carrying a comprehensive news coverage.

TV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Bristol; 9.55 Dragonflies; 10.15 Homes and Gardens; 10.30 News; 10.55 Social education and growing up; 11.15 Yorkshire sheep farms; 11.32 Boats and boating; 11.44 Eyes.

12.00 Topper's Tales: with the late Julian Clary; 12.10 Rainbow; plus also at 4.00; 12.30 Writers on Writing: Richard Hoggart interviews playwright Peter Nichols; Private on Parade, The National Health etc.

1.00 News; 1.30 Thames area News; 1.30 About Britain: The Best of Spirits. A film about the annual champion of consumer's rights, a film who can project themselves back into history or forwards into the future.

2.00 A Plus: Ralph Nader, the annual champion of consumer's rights, is interviewed. And North-London children are seen being tested for lead levels in their blood.

2.30 Reading News: We see the 2.35, 3.05 and 3.35.

4.00 Children's ITV; Rainbow (r); 4.20 Dangerous: episode 5 of the series; 4.25 Animals in Action: Treasure Islands. Another of Keith Shackleton's wildlife films; 4.50 Theatre: An amateur theatre group in Middleborough; the new Balham badger called Curlew; and advice for budgeted owners.

5.15 Make Me Laugh: Cluckie-talking cartoon. With Gerina Writers, Matthew Kelly.

5.45 News; 6.00 The 6 o'Clock Show: with Michael Aspel and Janet Street-Porter.

7.00 Family Fortunes: The Athertons from St Helen's, Marseilles versus the Beavans from Walsmore. With Bob Monkhouse.

7.30 Space Women: (See Choice).

8.30 Hallelujah! New comedy series about the Salvation Army, starring Thora Hird as over-zealous captain who is thought to be ready for retirement. On 10.25 agenda tonight: the reconversion of a local bingo hall to a Salvation Army chapel.

9.00 Death of an Expert Witness: Episode 4 of this Robin Chapman dramatization of the 1971 James murder story. The secret of the murdered Lorrimer's love affair with Domenica Howarth is out. With Roy Marsden as the man on the Yerd. Also starring Barry Corbin; 9.15 News (see Choice).

10.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Party.

10.10 News from ITN.

10.40 The London Programme: Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Commissioner of Police, has given notice that he plans to resign. He appears in tonight's programme to discuss his chances of success.

11.10 Snoot Pool: the second match in the John Brierley Snoot Pool Championships. Playing tonight are 'Whirlwind' Alex Sherman and Barbara Lohan. 12.05 Close: with Charles Lyth-Hunt.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University (until 8.10): British Music; 8.30 Ocean Cruise; 8.58 Canal and Harbour Modelling; 7.45 Language Development; 7.50 Evolution of Fishes.

11.00 Play School: (See BBC 1, at 3.55).

11.25 World Snooker: More semi-final action in the Embassy World Professional Championship. From the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. Further coverage tonight at 7.28, 10.25 and 12.30 on BBC 2.

5.10 TV and Politics: Britain. Open University film (the first in a short series of four) about the day in the Embassy World Professional Championship held in Blackpool and Brighton respectively.

5.38 Weekend Outlook: What is in store for Open University students.

5.40 The Falcon's Brother (1942): Modestly made thriller with real-life brothers George Sanders and Tom Conway as movie brothers involved in a plot to assassinate a South American diplomat. Also starring Jane Randolph; 6.40 Cartoon: Gallery.

6.50 Madcap Jeffery's Indian Cookery: Masoor Dal (r); 7.15 News, with sub-titles.

7.28 The Big Game: The frame of the 1978 Labour and Conservative party conferences held in Blackpool and Brighton respectively.

7.50 Did You See...? Bill Forsyth, the film director, Rosie Thomas, the novelist, and Alexei Sayle, comedian, on Triangle (BBC 1), Glasgow (BBC 2) and Party Satirical Broadcast (Channel 4) and Nick Ross comments on the tricks of the trade on TV. In the chair: Lucinda Kennedy.

8.30 Gardeners' World: How to get the best out of dahlias; taking cuttings from canisters and shrubs; planting tomatoes and cucumbers.

9.00 Entertainment USA: Jonathan King reports on the musical scene in New Orleans. He interviews Felix Domino and the American group Kiss.

9.30 The File on Al Hatz: Part one of a three-part drama series, set in England and the United States between 1943 and 1961, about the marriage between a black American GI and an English girl. Starring Frances Tomelty, Tim Woodward and Joe Martin. A BBC/WNET New York co-production (see Choice).

10.25 World Snooker: More coverage of the Embassy Championship (also at 12.30).

10.50 A Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Party.

11.00 Newsnight.

11.10 The Old Grey Whistle Test: with Spandau Ballet and London Waterlily. Also an interview with Mest Loco.

12.30 World Snooker: Final visit of the day to Sheffield, Ends at 1.30 am.

SPACE WOMEN (TV, 7.30 pm)

documents the crumbling of yet another bastion of male exclusiveness. The Russians put a woman in space many moons ago. This year, the Americans hope to follow suit, the lady destined for a place in the history books being Sally Ride. Given the nature of her trail-blazing exploit, it is a name that could hardly be improved on. One of the women astronaut-in-waiting who provide the subject matter in tonight's equal opportunity film, has an equally apt name, Sherron Lusk. In her rapidly-delivered statement of confidence in her ability to keep her end up in a man's extra-terrestrial world, she says that taking a ride in the space shuttle will be no worse than driving down the Houston freeway. One of the less

CHOICE

technical aspects of Space Women is what happens when husband and wife, both astronauts, are rocketed into space together. The film assures us that this is bound to happen, eventually. Marriages can survive in stressful environments on Earth, one astronaut-husband says, confident that "it will all work out" in space. Too. But it does not, there seems little opportunity several miles up for either spouse to storm out, threatening to go back to mother. Not omitted from the film is the question that crosses many a lay mind when astronauts are discussed: it is even more intriguing when the company is mixed. What about bodily functions, and the need for privacy? Space Women poses

the question, and answers it, too.

Technically, the first instalment of THE FILE ON JILL HATCH (BBC 2, 9.30 pm) is in the cinema movie class. Dramatically, it is not as banal as the sequence in which white West Country wife and black Alabama husband stroll across Clifton suspension bridge and, in a brave show of integration, unveil their singing of Rule Britannia, and America, America. Radio highlighter Graham Green's ingenious two-hour YES AND NO (Radio 3, 7.05 pm) has Clive Francis as the overbearing stage director and Alex Jennings as the hapless actor who says nothing except the two words in the title. It is how he says them that matters. This is 25 minutes of radio time most entertainingly filled.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University (until 8.10): British Music; 8.30 Ocean Cruise; 8.58 Canal and Harbour Modelling; 7.45 Language Development; 7.50 Evolution of Fishes.

11.00 Play School: (See BBC 1, at 3.55).

11.25 World Snooker: More semi-final action in the Embassy World Professional Championship. From the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. Further coverage tonight at 7.28, 10.25 and 12.30 on BBC 2.

5.10 TV and Politics: Britain. Open University film (the first in a short series of four) about the day in the Embassy World Professional Championship held in Blackpool and Brighton respectively.

5.38 Weekend Outlook: What is in store for Open University students.

5.40 The Falcon's Brother (1942): Modestly made thriller with real-life brothers George Sanders and Tom Conway as movie brothers involved in a plot to assassinate a South American diplomat. Also starring Jane Randolph; 6.40 Cartoon: Gallery.

6.50 Madcap Jeffery's Indian Cookery: Masoor Dal (r); 7.15 News, with sub-titles.

7.28 The Big Game: The frame of the 1978 Labour and Conservative party conferences held in Blackpool and Brighton respectively.

7.50 Did You See...? Bill Forsyth, the film director, Rosie Thomas, the novelist, and Alexei Sayle, comedian, on Triangle (BBC 1), Glasgow (BBC 2) and Party Satirical Broadcast (Channel 4) and Nick Ross comments on the tricks of the trade on TV. In the chair: Lucinda Kennedy.

8.30 Gardeners' World: How to get the best out of dahlias; taking cuttings from canisters and shrubs; planting tomatoes and cucumbers.

9.00 Entertainment USA: Jonathan King reports on the musical scene in New Orleans. He interviews Felix Domino and the American group Kiss.

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CHANNEL 4

5.15 Acting with Anne: Another session with Anne Scher and her north London school of young actors who tonight improvise on the theme of dealing with animals after Miss Nichols' death. A sad poem about a trapped rabbit.

5.30 Countdown: Words and numbers game. With Richard Williams and Kenneth Williams.

6.00 Theatre: Pop music show, with Tears for Fears, Heaven 17, and the Appollinaires. Including video review and Marc issue's regular location report. Live from Bushby in London.

7.00 Channel Four News.

7.30 The Friday Alternative: Tonight's edition includes items on murder and the media (with the Press and the Appollinaires). Including video review and Marc issue's regular location report. Live from Bushby in London.

8.00 What a Picture! John Hedgecoe's photography course, for beginners and for the more advanced. Tonight, the light to 'hedge' the pictures of the gardens of a chateau in Normandy and a wedding in an English country church. Plus still-life arrangements in a studio.

8.30 Jazz on Four: Lionel Hampton and his quintet. Tonight, the 'hedge' the pictures of the gardens of a chateau in Normandy and a wedding in an English country church. Plus still-life arrangements in a studio.

9.30 Capstick Capers: Another of Norman Antler's Tony Capstick's comedy and music shows. The guest star is Dave Barry. With East of Eden and Ian Galt.

10.00 Cheers: Comedy series set in an American saloon bar. There is a row after Diane (Shelley Long) falls to be impressed by a customer's story in the 'Special World'.

10.30 Kill or Cure? First in a new series of medical documentaries which concentrate on the side-effects caused by prescribed drugs. Tonight's film is about Siron, the crippling, blinding disease of the nervous system (short for sub acute myelotic neuropathy) which is caused by drugs that include Ergotamine. Recommended for stomach troubles while holidaying abroad. Joan Stanton is the presenter. She is medical correspondent for Thames Television.

11.15 Film: The Big Clock (1947). Thriller, atmospherically directed by John Farrow, with Charles Laughton as a publishing tycoon who, after murdering his mistress, organizes to track down the one key witness who could reveal his guilt. With Ray Milland as a magazine editor, Maurice Evans as the lawyer, and John Gielgud as the judge. Ends at 12.55.

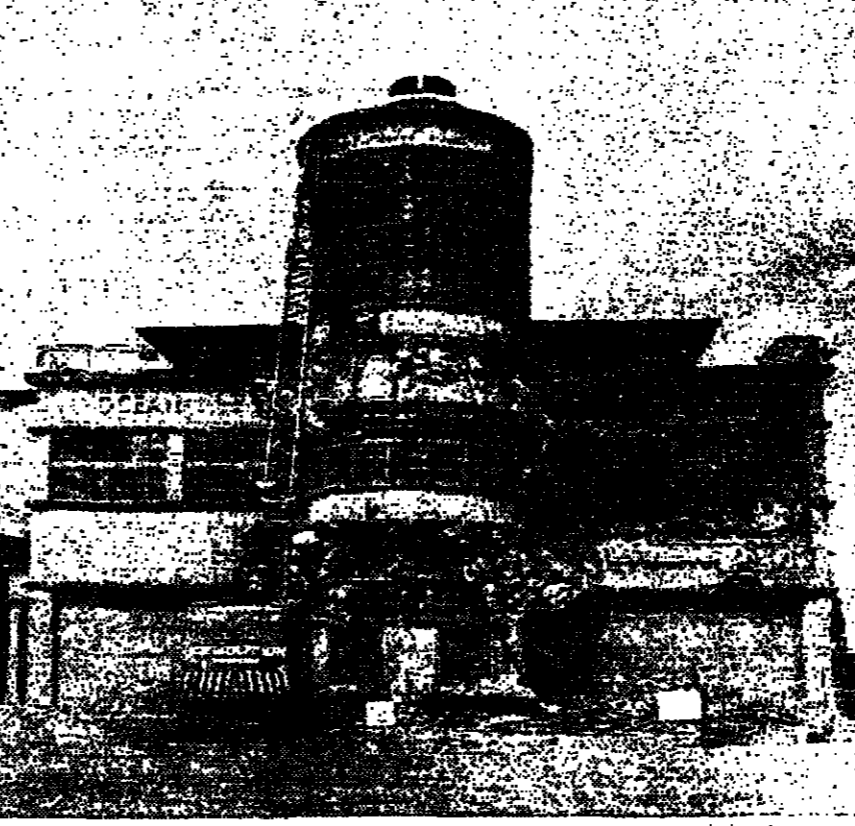
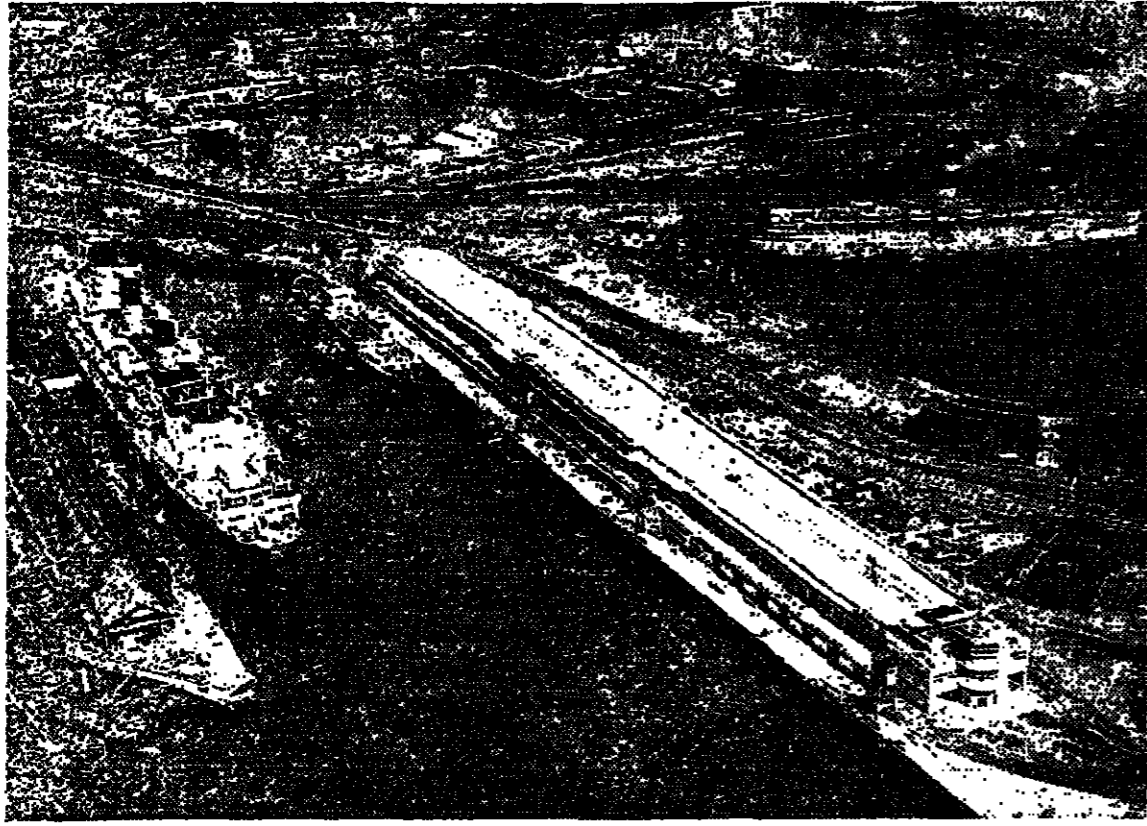
Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.

6.10 Farming Today.

6.35 Shipping Forecast.

6.50 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day, 6.55 News, 7.05, 7.25, 7.50, 8.25, 8.50 News, 8.55 News, 9.05 News, 9.15 News, 9.25 News, 9.35 News, 9.45 News, 9.55 News, 10.05 News, 10.15 News, 10.25 News, 10.35 News, 10.45 News, 10.55 News, 11.05 News, 11.15 News, 11.25 News, 11.35 News, 11.45 News, 11.55 News, 12.05 News, 12.15 News, 12.25 News, 12.35 News, 12.45 News, 12.55 News, 1.05 News, 1.15 News, 1.25 News, 1.35 News, 1.45 News, 1.55 News, 2.05 News, 2.15 News, 2.25 News, 2.35 News, 2.45 News, 2.55 News, 3.05 News, 3.15 News, 3.25 News, 3.35 News, 3.45 News, 3.55 News, 4.05 News, 4.15 News, 4.25 News, 4.35 News, 4.45 News, 4.55 News, 5.05 News, 5.15 News, 5.25 News, 5.35 News, 5.45 News, 5.55 News, 6.05 News, 6.15 News, 6.25 News, 6.35 News, 6.45 News, 6.55 News, 7.05 News, 7.15 News, 7.25 News, 7.35 News, 7.45 News, 7.55 News, 8.05 News, 8.15 News, 8.25 News, 8.35 News, 8.45 News, 8.55 News, 9.05 News, 9.15 News, 9.25 News, 9.35 News, 9.45 News, 9.55 News, 10.05 News, 10.15 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Last day of a glorious landmark

Age has caught up with the once magnificent dockside terminal at Southampton, seen above left in its heyday with the Queen Mary in dock and right, yesterday receiving the attentions of a demolition company.

Jenkin offers £200m aid for computer industry

The Government is to spend up to £200m over the next five years to help the British electronics industry develop a new generation of more advanced computers.

Syrian pressure 'delaying talks'

Continued from page 1 stalled talks. Damascus was demanding a high price from Lebanon in return for the withdrawal of its forces, including a Syrian-Lebanese defence pact and training of the Lebanese Army in Syria.

Frank Johnson in the Commons. Salvador and Surrey by Foot's Tours

Both Central America and Surrey County Council's rate increases were among the subjects which Mr Michael Foot, ever the man for the broad sweep, raised yesterday when a renewed trough of "pre-election atmosphere" enveloped the House.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

- Royal engagements Prince Michael of Kent visits JCB at Rochester. Uttoxeter, as President of the Institute of the Motor Industry.

Hospital, Chichester, 1.45: opens the new swimming centre of Arun District Council at Littlehampton.

- 4.15: attends two receptions in Worthing to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Worthing Area Guild for Voluntary Service, arrives Methodist House, Gordon Road, 3.45 and then arrives Ashmount, Shelley Road, 4.15.

Last chance to see

- Out of This World, arts of science fiction, Art Gallery and Museum, School Hill, 10.00 to 8.00, Sun to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Food prices

For those spending the holiday weekend at home, an important consideration should be how to relieve the burden on the family cook: part of the answer could lie in cold lunches, particularly as salad vegetables are becoming cheaper and more plentiful.

Roads

London and South-east A13: Roadworks at Barking, Dagenham and Limehouse. A11: Congestion between Stratford and Bow.

Weather

A depression will remain slow-moving in the North Sea, and a slack area of low pressure will persist over the British Isles.



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,116

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions for words.

MUSIC

- Concert by Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham, 7.30.

National day

The Japanese today celebrate the birthday of Emperor Hirohito, who was born on April 29, 1901. The emperor, who has written nine books on marine biology, succeeded to the throne in 1926.

The papers

The Daily Mirror criticizes Mrs Shirley Goodwin and her husband for announcing that she will not speak publicly without receiving a five-figure sum.

Lighting-up time

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various locations across the UK.

High tides

Table listing high tide times for various coastal locations in the UK.

ACROSS

- 1 Fish with worm's tail for a spell (5).

DOWN

- 1 Play the part of a custodian (9).

Talks, lectures

- Plants and People in the Yorkshire Dale, by Dr John Rodwell, Duke's Playhouse, Lancaster University, 12.35.

Top films

- Top box-office films in London: 1 (1) Sophie's Choice.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies against the British pound.

Yesterday

Table showing weather conditions and temperatures for various locations on the previous day.

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions and temperatures for various locations across the British Isles.

A second crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions for words.

Anniversaries

- Births: John Lubbock, 1st Baron Avebury, banker, politician and archaeologist, London, 1834; Sir Thomas Beecham, St. Helen's, Lancashire, 1879; Sir Malcolm Sargent, Ashford, Kent, 1895; Duke Ellington, Washington, 1899; James Montgomery, poet and hymn writer died at Sheffield, 1854.

Top video rentals

- 1 Annie (RCA/Columbia).

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private members' Bills: Copyright (Amendment) Bill, report. Coroners' Juris Bill, committee.